CREATED BY SPIKE CHUNSOFT
MANGA BY KUROKI Q

DANGANRONPA 2 GOODBYE DESPAIR

DR2: 1

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Danganronpa 2

GOODBYE DESPAIR

TRANSLATION BY JACKIE MCCLURE

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EDITED BY CARL GUSTAV HORN

SPECIAL THANKS TO ARIANNE ADVINCULA AND
MIMI SAITO AT SPIKE CHUNSOFT

DR2: 1

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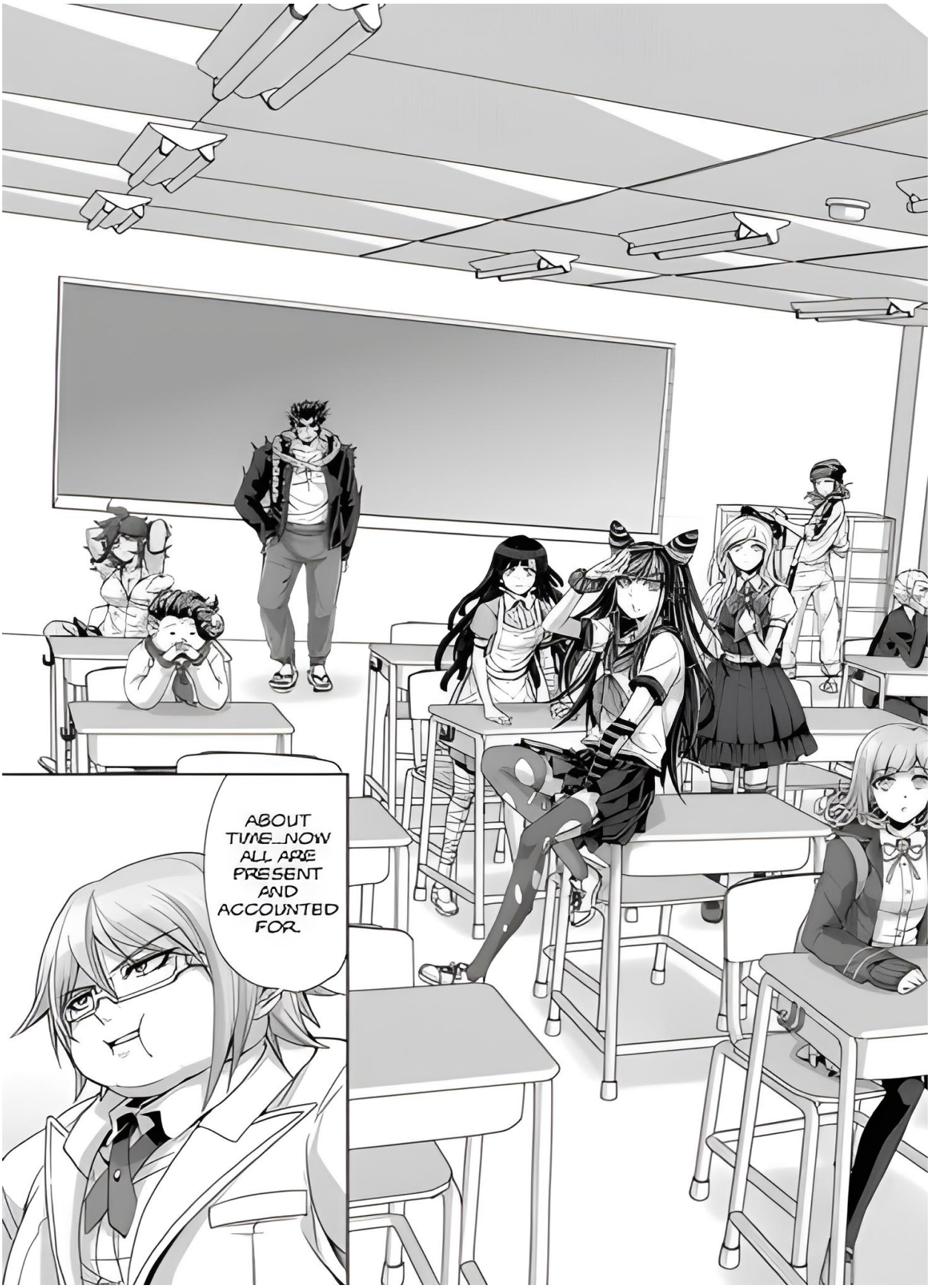
HEY...
...ARE YOU OKAY?
I DON'T BLAME YOU FOR ZONING OUT... IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE WE GOT CAUGHT IN SOME-THING SO SURREAL ...
Huh...? What just happened ...?
That's right! I...
...HEY, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
I... am...

PROLOGUE

The private high school, Hope's Peak Academy.
Accredited by the government, this super-elite academy recruits extremely talented students from every field imaginable...
...with the mission to cultivate the "rays of hope" who will bear the future of our nation.
HIGH SCHOOL
The only way in is through its recruitment-based system.
If you can graduate from here, you're practically guaranteed future success...

fwoom!
Eh ...?!
...I FINALLY GET TO ENROLL !
I'm Hajime Hinata. I've always dreamed of going to Hope's Peak Academy, and today...
There's a door...
Huh...? A door ...?
rattle
...I need to open the door... and enter the classroom.
Oh... that's right...


ABOUT TIME. NOW ALL ARE PRESENT AND ACCOUNTED FOR.

AS THERE ARE 16 DESKS AND HE...
...IS THE 16TH STUDENT TO ENTER, DOESN'T IT STAND TO REASON?
ULTIMATE AFFLUENT PROGENY
BYAKUYA TOGAMI
OH, WHOA! HOWDJA KNOW HE'S THE LAST ONE?
HUH?
ULTIMATE MUSICIAN
IBUKI MIODA
...
They're students here, too... aren't they?
I'D LIKE TO ASK A QUESTION NOW THAT WE ARE ASSEMBLED...
...DO ANY OF YOU RECALL... PRECISELY HOW YOU CAME TO THIS CLASSROOM?
THE MOMENT I SET FOOT ON CAMPUS ...
...I WAS STRUCK BY A DIZZY SPELL...
ULTIMATE GAMER
CHIAKI NANAMI
...Y-YES.
ULTIMATE PRINCESS
SONIA NEVERMIND
YEP ...
WAS IT THE SAME FOR EVERYONE ...?!
eh? eh?
Shake
Shake
ULTIMATE COOK
TERUTERU HANAMURA
ME, TOO ...

THE WILL OF AN ENTITY... UNRELATED TO THE SCHOOL-- COULD BE AT WORK.
AND WHAT IS THIS "WILL" ...?
ULTIMATE PHOTOGRAPHER
MAHIRU KOIZUMI
THIS WAS NO MERE COINCI-DENCE.
DON'T YOU FIND IT STRANGE HOW WE...
...FELL UNCON-SCIOUS AND AWOKE HERE?
HEY, INSTEAD OF GRIPIN' OVER WHY WE'RE HERE, HOW 'BOUT FOCUSIN' ON WHY WE CAN'T LEAVE?
ULTIMATE TEAM MANAGER
NEKOMARU NIDAI
WHAT PUR-POSE HAVE THEY TO DRAW US HERE ...?
ULTIMATE SWORDSWOMAN
PEKO PEKOYAMA
WHA--?! YA TELLIN' ME WE'RE LOCKED IN HERE? I AIN'T DOIN' NO TIME!
ULTIMATE YAKUZA
FUYUHIKO KUZURYU
WHAT IS THE MEAN-ING OF THIS ...?
ULTIMATE BREEDER
GUNDHAM TANAKA
SERI-OUSLY! DAMN THING WON'T BUDGE !
rattle
rattle
ULTIMATE GYMNAST
AKANE OWARI
AND WHERE'S THE TEACHER, ANYWAY ...?!
ULTIMATE TRADITIONAL DANCER
HIYOKO SAIONJI
JEEZ, WHAT'S UP WITH THIS ?!
eep...! I'M GETTING S-SCARED ...
ULTIMATE NURSE
MIKAN TSUMIKI
WHOA! THIS FOR REAL ?!
ULTIMATE MECHANIC
KAZUICHI SODA
SO IT WOULD SEEM ...
ULTIMATE LUCKY STUDENT
NAGITO KOMAEDA

SOMEONE CALL FOR A TEACHER?
Huh?
IT CAME FROM THE PODIUM...?
boing!
CALL AND I'LL BE THERE! I'M THE MAGICAL MIRACLE GIRL ☆ USAMI!
ta-da!
AND I'M YOUR TEACHER, CLASS!
I'D LIKE YOU TO CALL ME "MS. USAMI"!
clacc!
W-What... is that thing?!
SHE'S... STUFFED.
kyaa!
I nailed it!
kyaa!
YEP! I AM INDEED A STUFFED ANIMAL! MADE OF FELT!
FULL OF COTTON! I'M YOUR ADORABLE MASCOT!
WAIT, DIDN'T YOU JUST REFER TO YOURSELF AS OUR "TEACHER"? DOES THAT MEAN YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON HERE...?
snap!
WHY, YOU BET!
ahem!
I COULDN'T VERY WELL GUIDE YOU ON THE SCHOOL TRIP IF I DIDN'T...!

School... trip?
YES, THAT'S WHAT IT SAYS ON THE BOARD, TEE-HEE! THE BIG EVENT EVERYONE IN SCHOOL LOOKS FORWARD TO! THE SUPER FUN AND EXCITING SCHOOL TRIP!
DON'T YOU WORRY! I'LL BE THERE SUPER-VISING THE WHOLE TIME!
H-HEY, YOU OWE US AN EXPLANATION! WHY DID WE SUDDENLY POP UP IN THIS CLASSROOM WITHOUT ANY RECOL-LECTION OF HOW WE GOT HERE?!
AND HOW CAN A STUFFED ANIMAL TALK AND WALK ...?
shine!
sparkle!
NOW THAT YOU'RE ALL HERE SAFE AND SOUND...
...LET'S SET OFF FOR OUR FUN SCHOOL TRIP!
rattle
rattle
rattle
Damn... what is it this time...?!
...!
...
HEY...
flash
eeeya!
rattle

Guess it was too surreal for my brain to handle.
That's right... That strange power zapped me clear from the classroom to this tropical island...
Oh, you're finally getting up!
gasp
blink
...ARE YOU OKAY?
YEAH... THANKS, UH...
YOU LOOK PALE. CAN YOU STAND?
I'M NAGITO KOMA-EDA.
BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I GOT IN FOR MY TALENT AS THE "ULTIMATE LUCKY STUDENT."
ULTI-MATE LUCKY STUDENT...?
YEAH, NOT THAT IT'S IMPRESSIVE. IT'S JUST WHAT HOPE'S PEAK CALLS THE WINNER OF ITS ANNUAL LOTTERY TO SELECT ONE NORMAL HIGH SCHOOL STU-DENT...
Y-YOU CAN ACTUALLY GET IN THAT WAY...?
A-HA! NICE TO MEET YOU.
SO, CARE TO GO NEXT?
SURE! I'M HAJIME HINATA, THE ULTIMATE...

Huh ...?
I'M THE...
W-WHAT... WAS I AGAIN?
Uh, er...
I can't... remember?
...I DON'T KNOW.
EH?
I SEE... MAYBE YOU'RE STILL A BIT DISORIENTED.
HONESTLY, THIS IS ENOUGH TO MAKE ANYONE'S HEAD SPIN.
I BET IT'LL COME BACK TO YOU SOON.

BY THE WAY, WHERE ARE THE OTHERS?
look キョロ
look キョロ
This is a tropical island...?
AND WHERE ARE WE...?

Y-YEAH... I'M SURE...
TELL ME WHEN YOU REMEMBER.
He's right... I'm bound to remember.

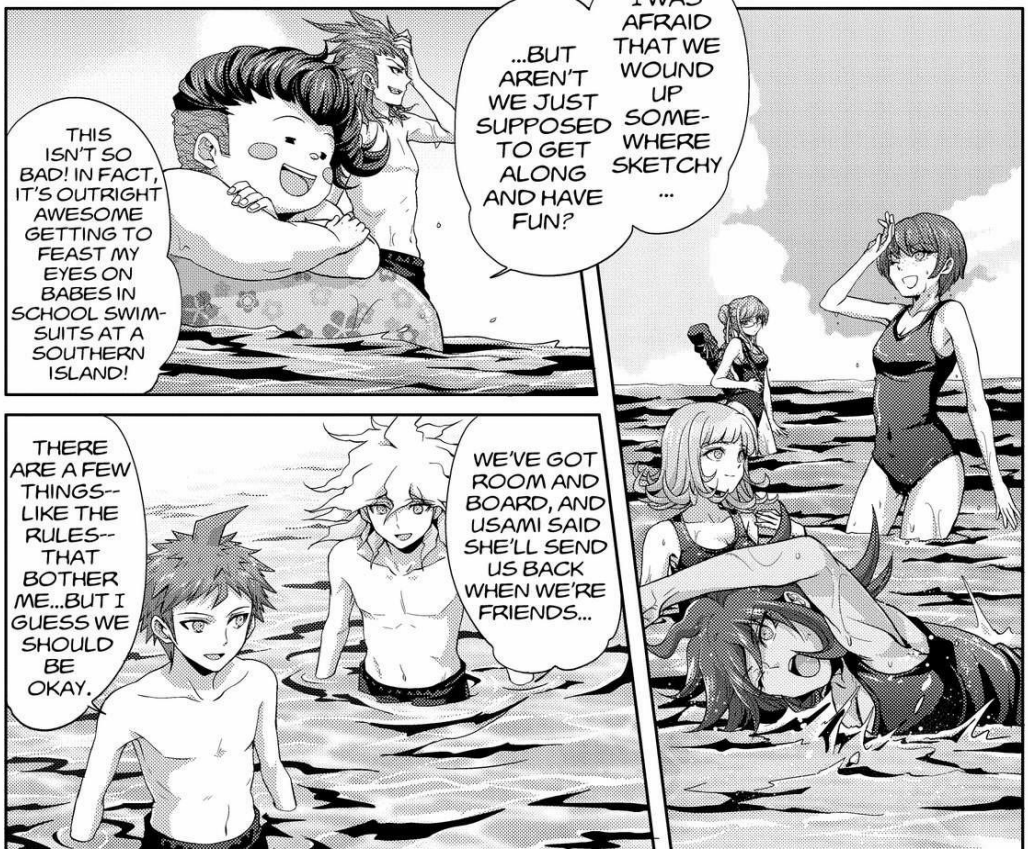
THEY LEFT TO INVESTIGATE JUST THAT.
SEEING AS USAMI CALLED THIS A "CLASS TRIP," IT LOOKS LIKE WE'LL BE HERE FOR A WHILE.

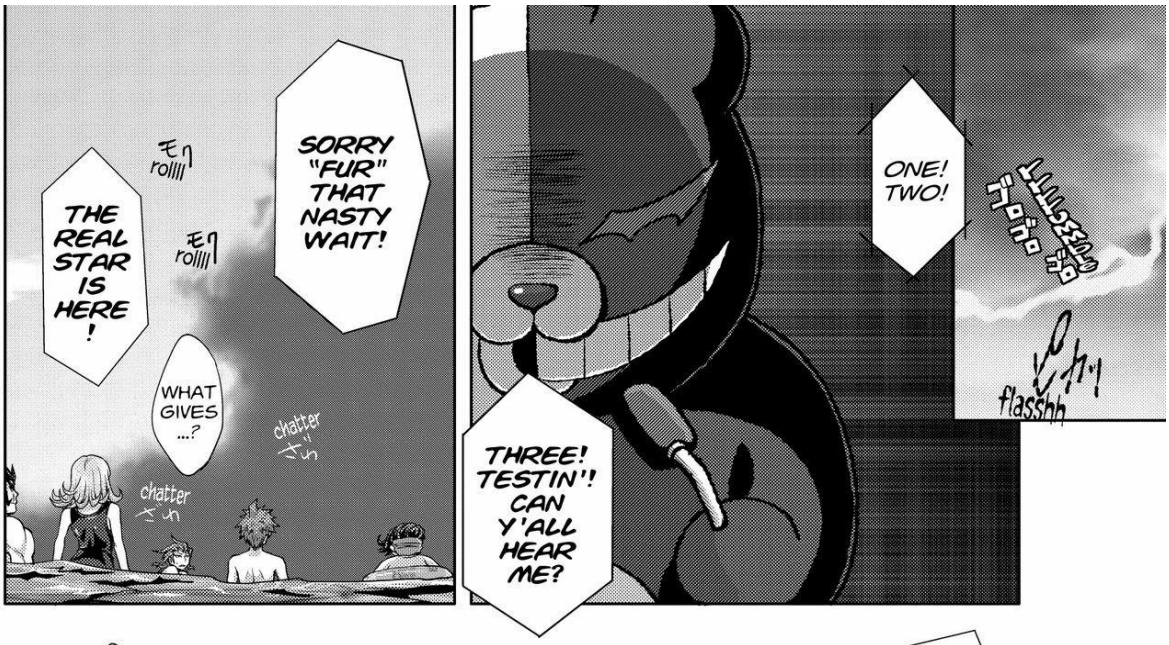
EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE IS PROHIBITED ON THIS ISLAND.
ENJOY PEACEFUL, HEART-WARMING DAYS ON THIS ISLAND TOGETHER.
LET'S TRY TO PLAY NICE AND BE CONSIDERATE.
LITTERING AND VANDALIZING NATURE IS NOT ALLOWED.
LET'S COEXIST WITH THE BOUNTIFUL NATURE ON THIS ISLAND.
THE LEAD TEACHER WILL NOT DIRECTLY INTERFERE WITH THE STUDENTS.
HOWEVER, AN EXCEPTION CAN BE MADE IF A RULE IS VIOLATED.
SCHOOL TRIP RULES
I'm not sure why, but the goal for our school trip is "just for everyone to become friends"... or so I'm told.
Obey them!
e-Handbooks...?
Along the way, that strange stuffed animal pestered me over the rules.
I felt a touch of uneasiness as I made my rounds.
WHY DON'T YOU INTRODUCE YOURSELF TO EVERYONE WHILE WE CHECK THE PLACE OUT?
A class trip...
That means we can go back, doesn't it...?

...I'VE PREPARED A KICK-OFF ACTIVITY FOR YOU!
daa
daa
daaaaa!
YOU'RE ALL HERE!
UMM... TO HELP BRING EVERYONE CLOSER...
love! love!

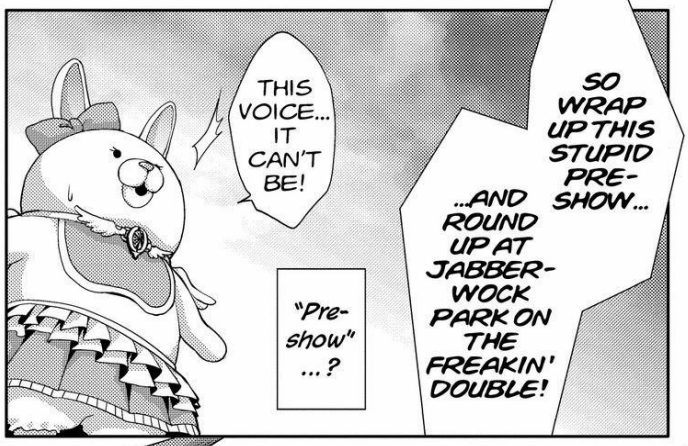
A SWIM-SUIT...?
And it's a school swimsuit, to boot...

わぁ yeah ahhh!!
バシャ splash
バシャ splash


THIS ISN'T SO BAD! IN FACT, IT'S OUTRIGHT AWESOME GETTING TO FEAST MY EYES ON BABES IN SCHOOL SWIM-SUITS AT A SOUTHERN ISLAND!
...BUT AREN'T WE JUST SUPPOSED TO GET ALONG AND HAVE FUN?
I WAS AFRAID THAT WE WOUND UP SOME-WHERE SKETCHY ...
THERE ARE A FEW THINGS--LIKE THE RULES--THAT BOTHER ME...BUT I GUESS WE SHOULD BE OKAY.
WE'VE GOT ROOM AND BOARD, AND USAMI SAID SHE'LL SEND US BACK WHEN WE'RE FRIENDS...


SORRY "FUR" THAT NASTY WAIT!
THE REAL STAR IS HERE!
WHAT GIVES...?
chatter
chatter
ONE! TWO!
THREE! TESTIN'! CAN Y'ALL HEAR ME?
flasshh

OH!
OH, NO! I MUST DO SOME-THING...!
?


THIS VOICE... IT CAN'T BE!
"Pre-show"...?
SO WRAP UP THIS STUPID PRE-SHOW...
...AND ROUND UP AT JABBER-WOCK PARK ON THE FREAKIN' DOUBLE!

At this point in time...
WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT...?
...we had no idea we'd be thrown into the pit of despair.
This is terri-baaad!
zooom!
um...
...HEY!

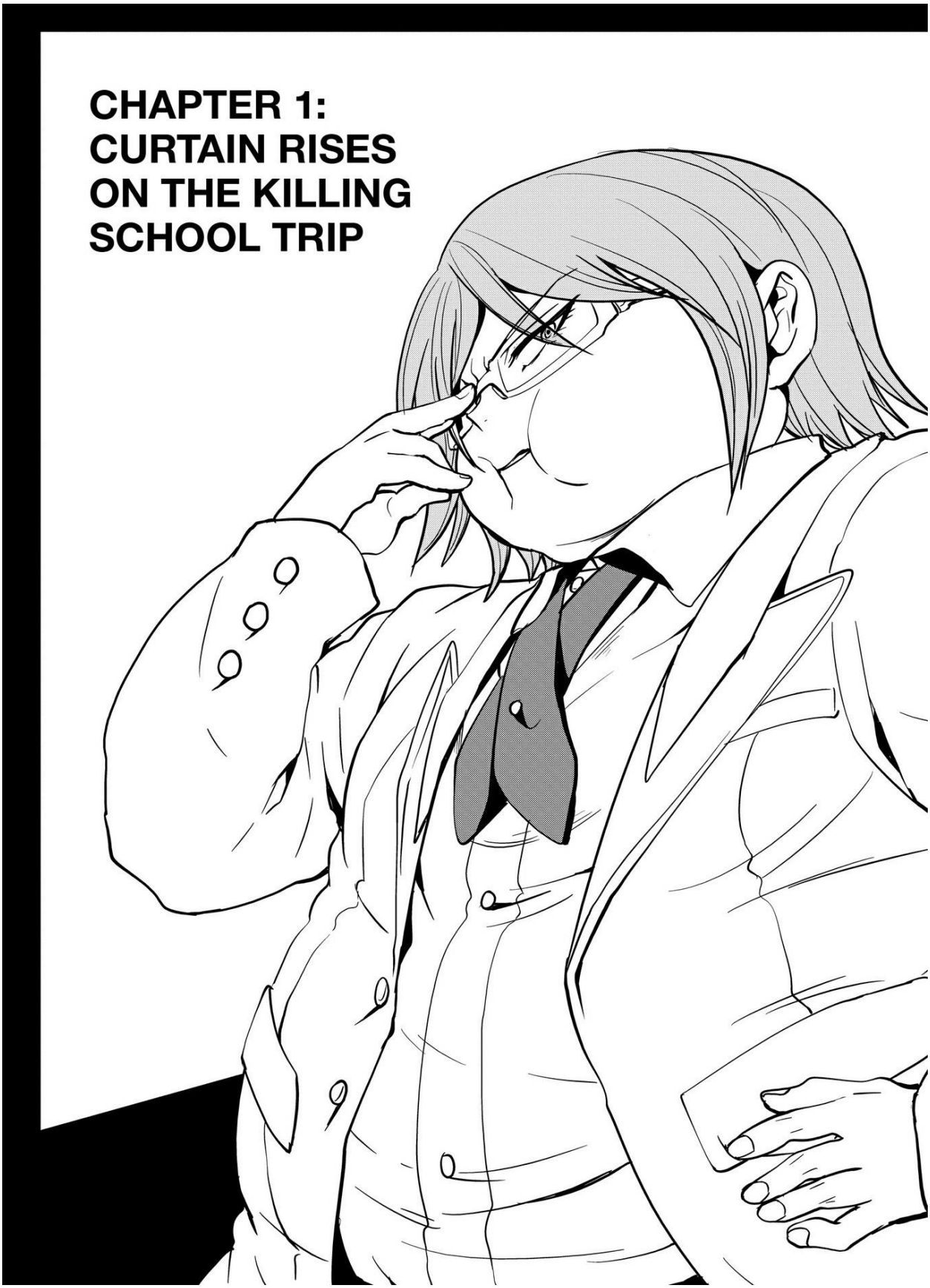
DANGAN RONPA 2 GOODBYE DESPAIR

OOMPH...
THERE!
ドサ
thump
WOW, THIS PLACE IS A MESS...
ゴホッ koff
ゴホッ koff
Ugh...
...JUST MY LUCK OF THE DRAW...

I SHOULD DO EVERY-THING I CAN AFTER TOGAMI WAS KIND ENOUGH TO OFFER HOSTING THIS GET-TO-GETHER ...
slip
...WELL, NO POINT IN FIGHT-ING LADY LUCK.
Heh...!
KLINK

I JUST HOPE IT TURNS OUT TO BE...
...A KILLER PARTY.

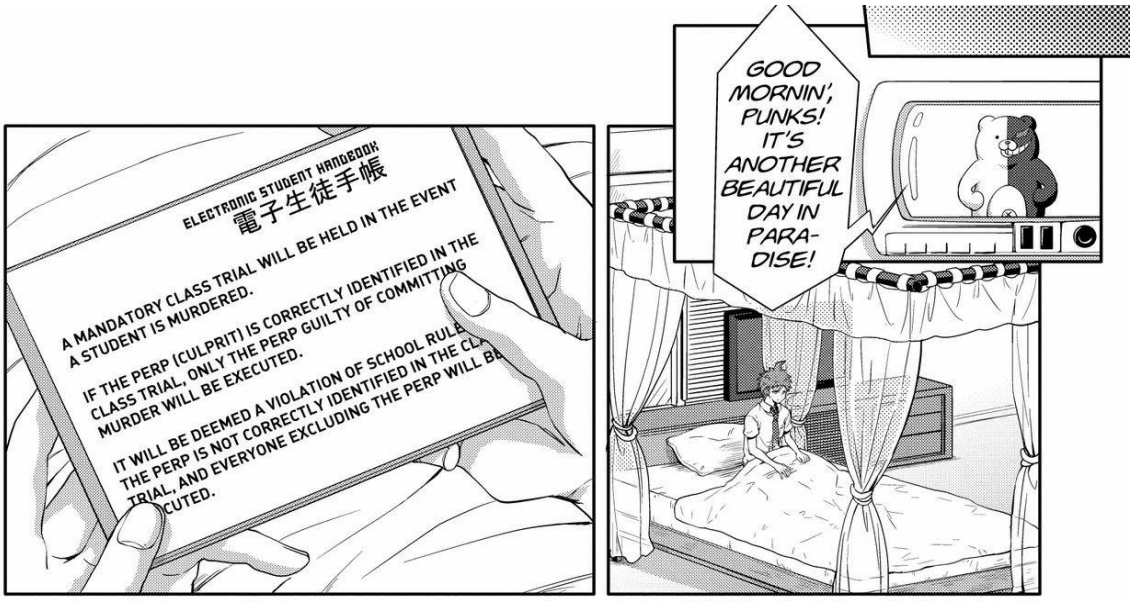
CHAPTER 1: CURTAIN RISES ON THE KILLING SCHOOL TRIP

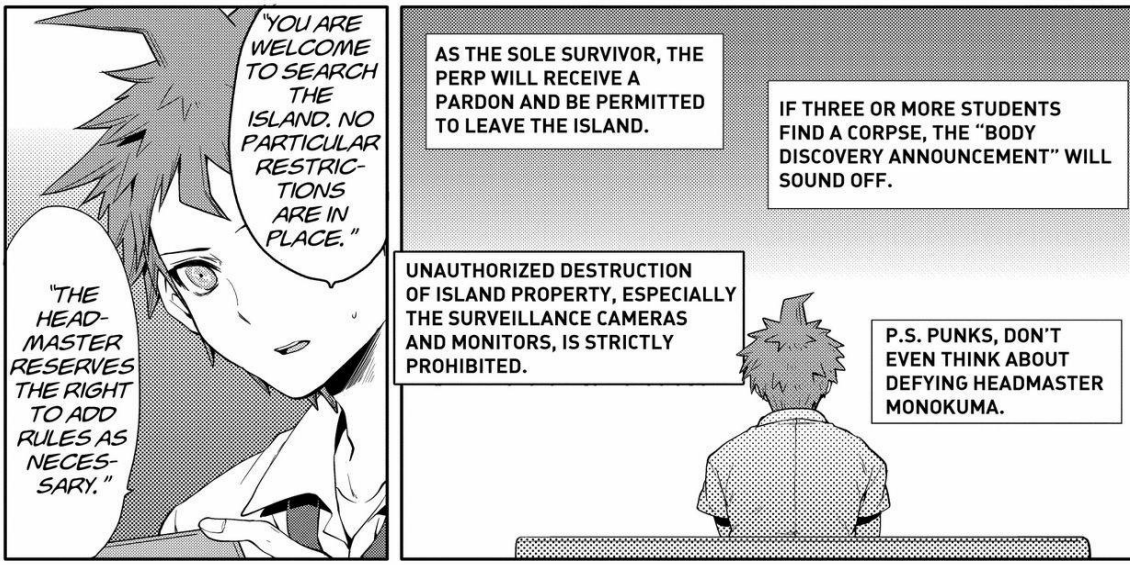


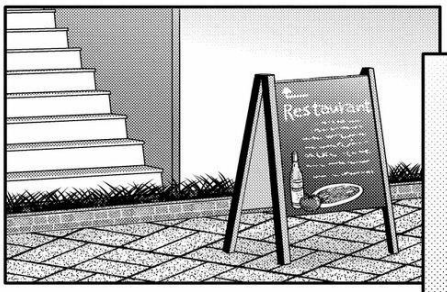
Hope's Peak Academy ...
...a school that recruits gifted high schoolers with Ultimate talents.
All of us are new students here.
Drawn into a zany situation upon starting school...
DID YA HEAR ME OKAY ?!
GET YER SORRY BUTTS TA JABBER-WOCK PARK PRONTO !
HEY THERE, KIDDOS! GLAD TA SEE YA ALL HERE...
AN' IN CASE YA DIDN'T KNOW, I'M THE HEAD-MASTER OF YER SCHOOL!
...I'M MONO-KUMA.

AN' Y'ALL ARE NOW...
snap
...HERE ON A SCHOOL KILLIN' TRIP!

A WHAT ...?
... we've stumbled into a world that is so insane...
... we can't simply laugh it off as zany.


ELECTRONIC STUDENT HANDBOOK
電子生徒手帳
A MANDATORY CLASS TRIAL WILL BE HELD IN THE EVENT A STUDENT IS MURDERED.
IF THE PERP (CULPRIT) IS CORRECTLY IDENTIFIED IN THE CLASS TRIAL, ONLY THE PERP GUILTY OF COMMITTING MURDER WILL BE EXECUTED.
IT WILL BE DEEMED A VIOLATION OF SCHOOL RULE THE PERP IS NOT CORRECTLY IDENTIFIED IN THE CL TRIAL, AND EVERYONE EXCLUDING THE PERP WILL BE CUTED.
GOOD MORNIN', PUNKS! IT'S ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL DAY IN PARA-DISE!


"YOU ARE WELCOME TO SEARCH THE ISLAND. NO PARTICULAR RESTRIC-TIONS ARE IN PLACE."
"THE HEAD-MASTER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ADD RULES AS NECES-SARY."
AS THE SOLE SURVIVOR, THE PERP WILL RECEIVE A PARDON AND BE PERMITTED TO LEAVE THE ISLAND.
IF THREE OR MORE STUDENTS FIND A CORPSE, THE "BODY DISCOVERY ANNOUNCEMENT" WILL SOUND OFF.
UNAUTHORIZED DESTRUCTION OF ISLAND PROPERTY, ESPECIALLY THE SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS AND MONITORS, IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.
P.S. PUNKS, DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT DEFYING HEADMASTER MONOKUMA.


Restaurant

MAN... SO THIS ISN'T A DREAM AFTER ALL...
...

INDEED... YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN WHAT HAPPENED LAST NIGHT, HAVE YOU?

APPARENTLY BYAKUYA'S GOT SOMETHING TO SAY!

...WHAT'S EVERYONE DOING HERE?

EXCELLENT TIMING. I WAS ABOUT TO SEND SOMEONE TO FETCH YOU.

chak! カチャ

BUT IF YA INSIST ON THAT TOUGH TALK...

gleam!

eeeeeen!

shiver

OOH! CAREFUL, JOCK-O-RAMA! IT'S AGAINST THE RULES TA THREATEN ME!

growwwl

YUP! A SCHOOL KILLIN' TRIP!

"KILLING"?

HEY! CUT THE CRAP!

WHAT THE HELL...?

WHICH IS WHY I SHALL UNDERTAKE THE ROLE OF LEADER.

hmph!

...BEREFT OF RESOURCES, IT IS IMPERATIVE TO UNIFY AS A GROUP IF WE HOPE TO STAND IN OPPOSITION.

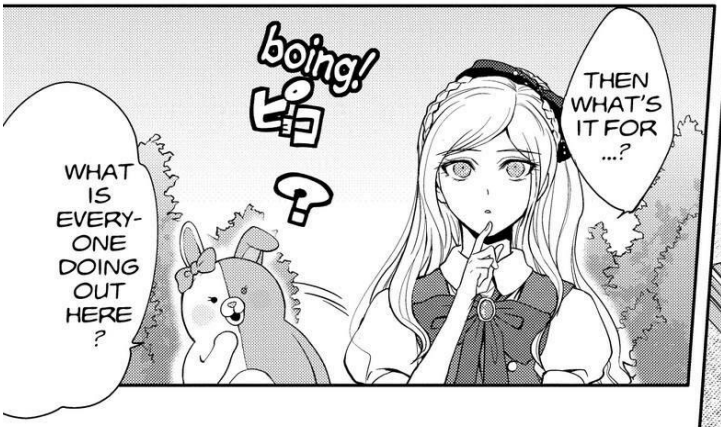
gulp

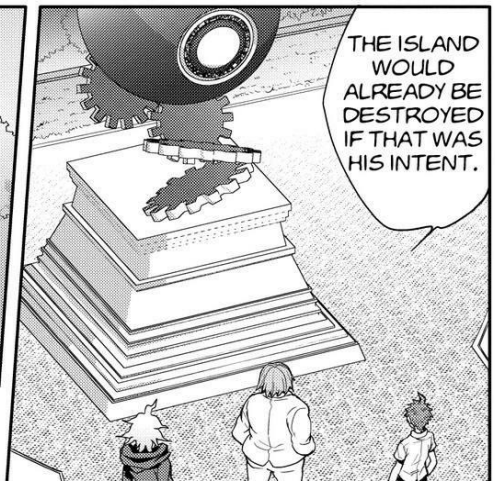
...BUT THOSE DAMN MECHANICAL MONSTERS WERE BLOCKIN' THE BRIDGES... NO GETTIN' PAST THOSE THINGS!
I WAS HOPING TO COME ACROSS SOMETHING TOO...
NOW, THERE IS SOME-THING I'D LIKE TO REPORT.
I EXPLORED THE ISLAND YESTERDAY... UNFORTU-NATELY, I COULD FIND NOTHING RESEMBLING A WAY OFF.
AH! PLEASE WAIT ...!
Allwist!
I DID COME ACROSS SOME-THING ...
...BUT BEST YOU SEE IT FOR YOUR-SELVES.
I... I'M SORRYYY!
faceplant
HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO FALL LIKE THAT ?
WHOO BOY! WHAT A FEAST FOR THE EYES!!
This is great!!
moo-
ハー! hah!
Mikan ?!
Wow! What a klutz!
splat!
スペシャー!

IS THIS A... CLOCK?
WAIT, IS IT COUNTING DOWN TO SOME-THING? IT WASN'T HERE YESTER-DAY, WAS IT...?

TELL ME ISN'T A BOMB!
A B-BOMB...? T-THAT WOULD K-K-KILL USSS!

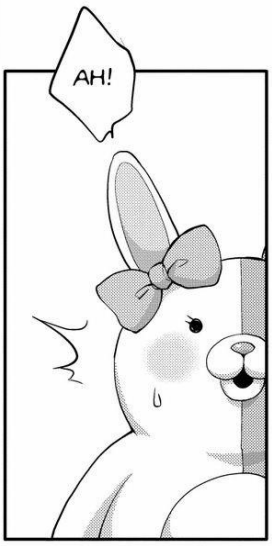
I SUSPECT MONO-KUMA INSTALLED IT.
...WHAT DO YOU SUP-POSE THIS COUNT-DOWN IS FOR?

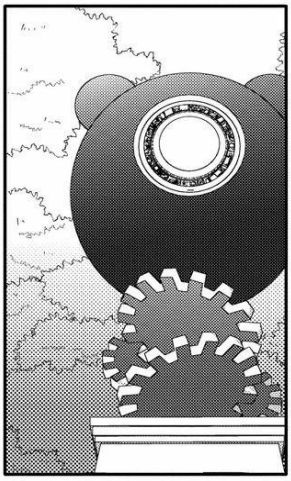

THEN WHAT'S IT FOR...?
boing!
ピコ
?
WHAT IS EVERY-ONE DOING OUT HERE?


THE ISLAND WOULD ALREADY BE DESTROYED IF THAT WAS HIS INTENT.

HOW RUDE! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU FORGOT WHO I AM! DON'T YOU REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY?
fume!
stomp!
kick!
Did you always look like that?
AND W-WHO... ARE YOU AGAIN...?
GWAAAH! D-DON'T POP OUTTA THIN AIR! YOU'RE GONNA GIVE ME A HEART ATTACK!
W-what is it?!
Whoa!
THAT DARN MONOKUMA TURNED ME INTO MONOMI...
Um...
I couldn't care less...
slack!
KYAA! OWW!
GIVE ME LIP, EH? TAKE THIS AND THIS!
slack!
MONOMI'S E-Z REVIEW
shudder...
DID YOU SAY... "KILLING"?
WHAT D-DID YOU DO TO ME...?!
DON'T BE SILLY! THAT'S NOT HAPPENING ON MY WATCH!!
no! no!
ba-doooon!
HEY, BY ANY CHANCE, DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS TIMER IS FOR?
HUH? TIMER?
MONOMI
HE EVEN TOOK MY MAGIC STICK...HERE I'M YOUR TEACHER, AND I CAN'T PROTECT YOU. I FEEL AWFUL!

UH... UM, I'M AFRAID I, UH, DON'T REALLY KNOW...
YOU SURE ?
...

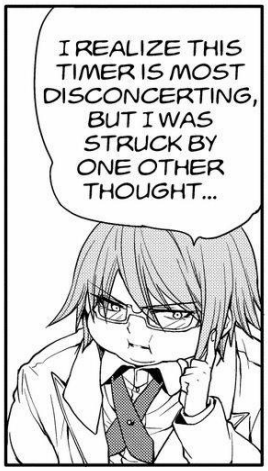

AH!

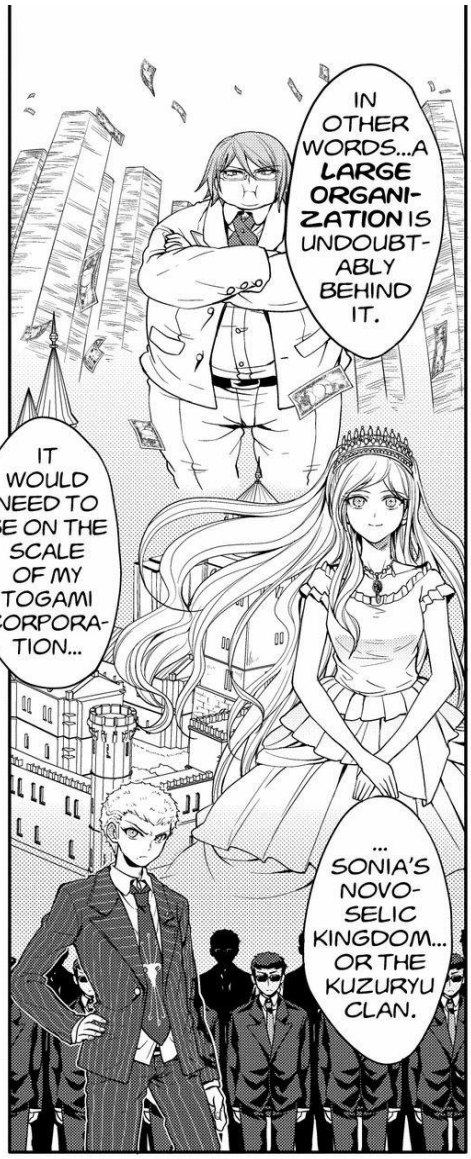


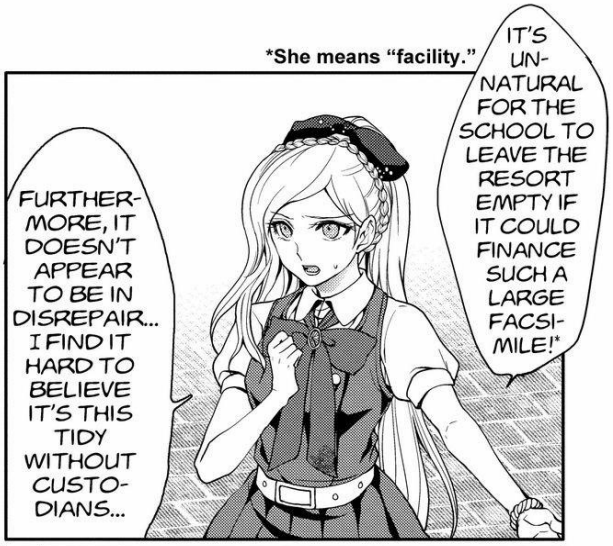
sniffle... YOU SHOULDN'T BE SO SUSPICIOUS OF THE POOR DEAR...
MAYBE SHE'S ONLY PRETENDING TO BE ON OUR SIDE, BUT SHE'S IN CAHOOTS WITH MONOKUMA...
"DON'T REALLY KNOW," YEAH...FOR ALL THAT TALK 'BOUT BEIN' OUR TEACH, SHE AIN'T TA BE TRUSTED.
VERY FISHY...

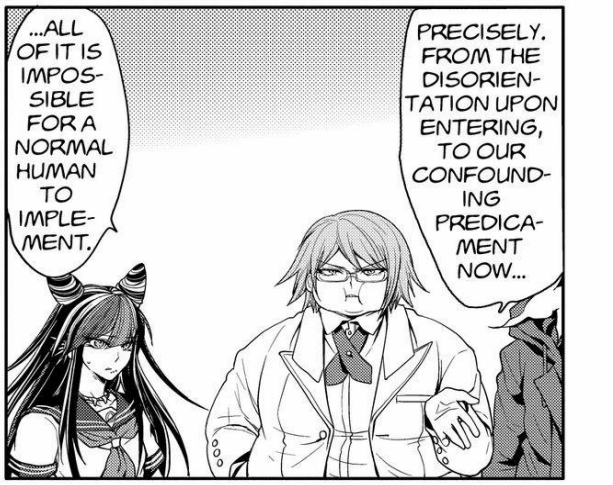
THIS PLACE LOOKS LIKE A RESORT... BUT WHERE'S THE STAFF OR TOURISTS ...?

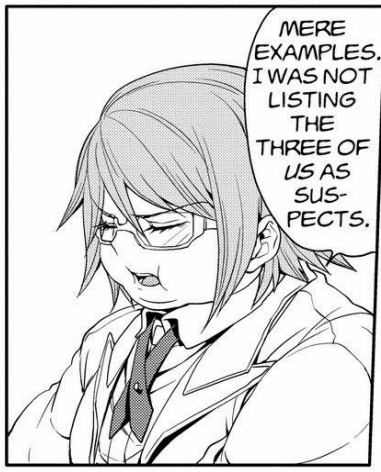
...WHY ARE WE THE ONLY PEOPLE ON THE ISLAND?


I REALIZE THIS TIMER IS MOST DISCONCERTING, BUT I WAS STRUCK BY ONE OTHER THOUGHT...

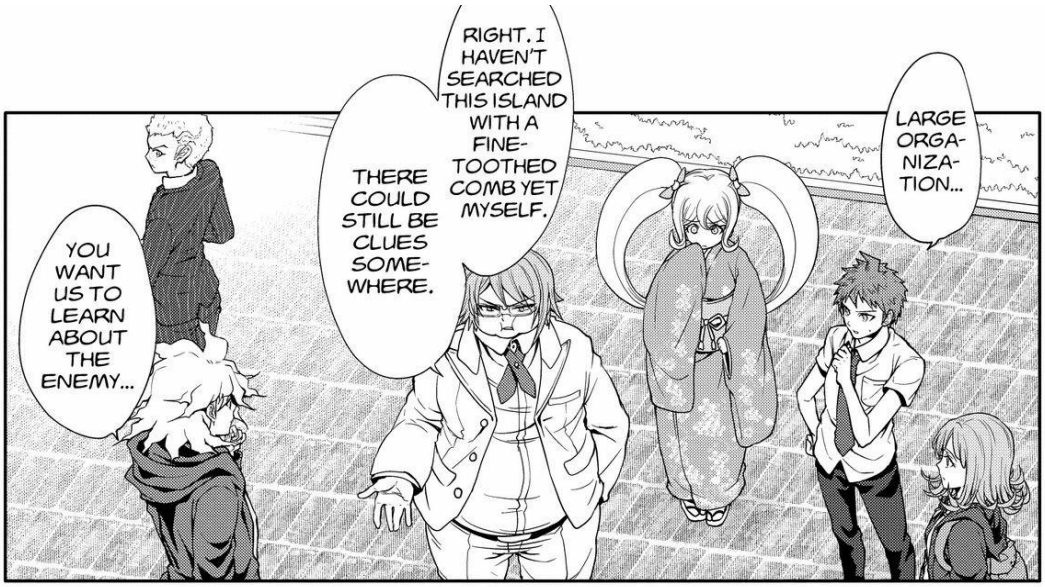

IN OTHER WORDS...A LARGE ORGANIZATION IS UNDOUBTABLY BEHIND IT.
IT WOULD NEED TO BE ON THE SCALE OF MY TOGAMI CORPORATION...
...SONIA'S NOVOSELIC KINGDOM... OR THE KUZURYU CLAN.


*She means "facility."
IT'S UNNATURAL FOR THE SCHOOL TO LEAVE THE RESORT EMPTY IF IT COULD FINANCE SUCH A LARGE FACSIMILE!*
FURTHERMORE, IT DOESN'T APPEAR TO BE IN DISREPAIR... I FIND IT HARD TO BELIEVE IT'S THIS TIDY WITHOUT CUSTODIANS...


PRECISELY. FROM THE DISORIENTATION UPON ENTERING, TO OUR CONFOUNDING PREDICAMENT NOW...
...ALL OF IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR A NORMAL HUMAN TO IMPLEMENT.


MERE EXAMPLES. I WAS NOT LISTING THE THREE OF US AS SUSPECTS.

YOU SON-UVA... YOU SAYIN' I'M BEHIND DIS ...?
clench
W-WE'D NEVER ...


YOU WANT US TO LEARN ABOUT THE ENEMY...
THERE COULD STILL BE CLUES SOME-WHERE.
RIGHT. I HAVEN'T SEARCHED THIS ISLAND WITH A FINE-TOOTHED COMB YET MYSELF.
LARGE ORGA-NIZA-TION...

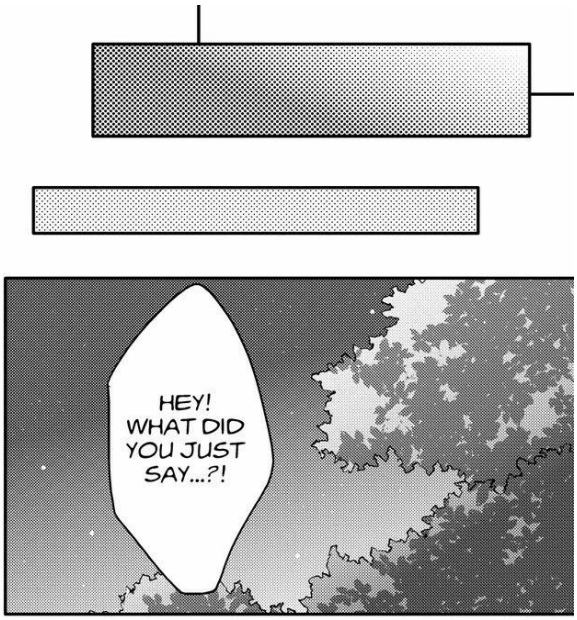
YOU'RE RIGHT! LET'S SPLIT UP AND SEARCH!
BWA HA HA HA HA!
YOU CAN COUNT ON THE FOUR DARK DEVAS OF DE-STRUC-TION!
Qina!

IT'S TIMES LIKE THIS WE REALLY NEED TO PULL TOGETHER AND WORK AS A TEAM!
I MEAN, WE'RE ALL CLASS-MATES WITH THE SAME HOPE IN OUR EYES!!

Let's go for it!
woo!
woo!
tch!

OH, MY! HAMSTER JUGGLING!
WELL, I GUESS RODENTS CAN SEARCH PLACES WE CAN'T...
whirl
bwa
ha
ha
ABLE TO CHANGE SHAPE AT WILL, MY FAMILIARS DEVOUR ALL WHO DARE CROSS THEIR PATH!
twirl
ha!

WHA--?! OF ALL THE NERVE! WE'VE BEEN SEARCHING EVERYWHERE SINCE YOU SUDDENLY DISAPPEARED...
hah!
ME, HANG WITH YOUSE SOFT PUNKS? CAAAMON!
DAT I GOT ZERO INTENTION OF WORKIN' WIT' DIS SORRY-ASS SET.


HEY! WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY...?!

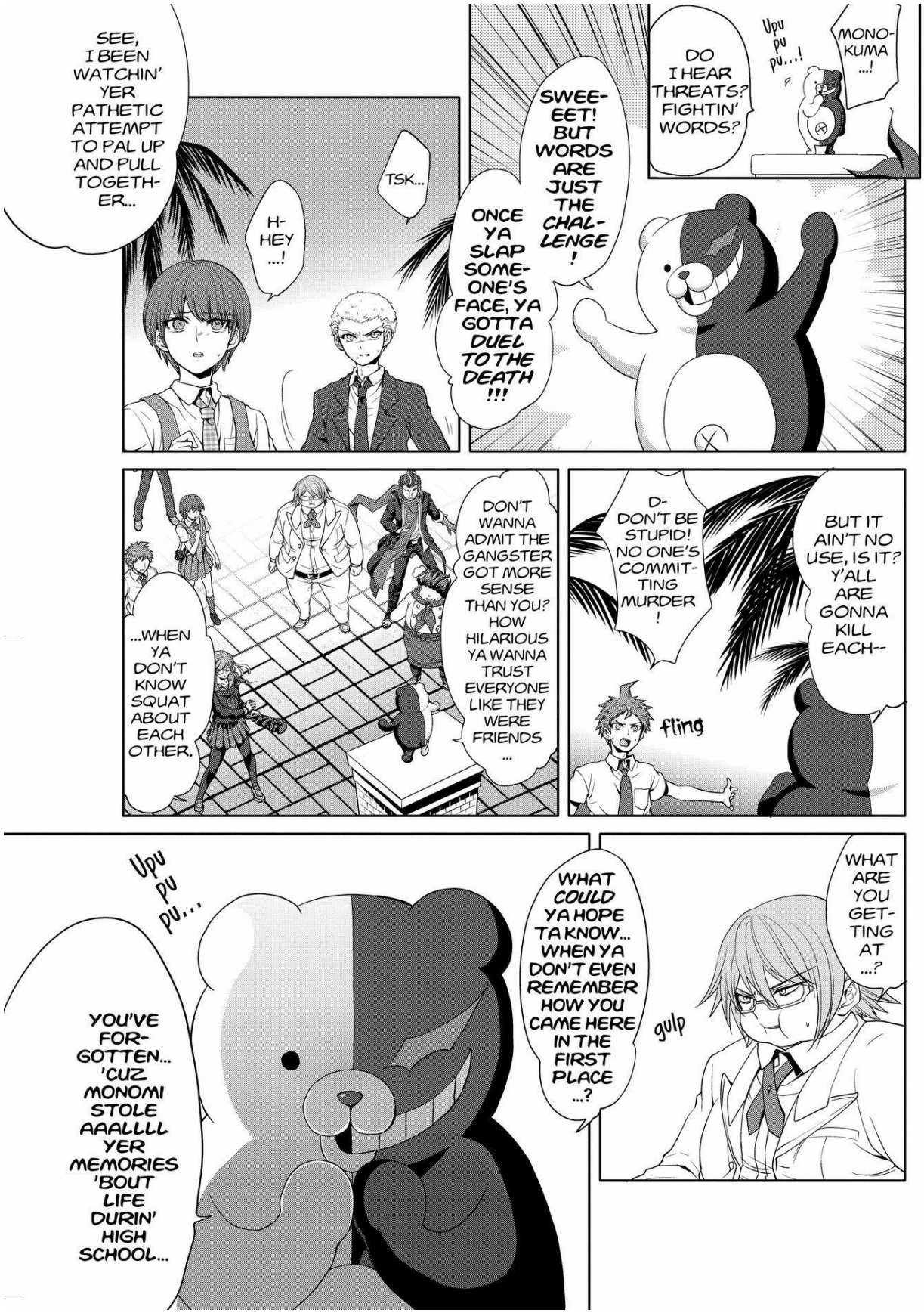
STAY OUTTA MY SIGHT. 'CAUSE WORD A' WARNIN' ...
well!
LEMME TAKE DIS OPPORTUNITY T' MAKE IT CLEAR: YA AIN'T MY CREW.

SEE, DAT'S JUST DA SORTA CRAP IMMA TALKIN' 'BOUT ...
tsk!

HEY, THAT'S --
uPu PU PU...

!!
!!
bam!

...IF IT WOULD GET ME OUTTA HERE...
...I'M A MAN WHO COULD DO YA IN.


SEE, I BEEN WATCHIN' YER PATHETIC ATTEMPT TO PAL UP AND PULL TOGETHER...
H-HEY ...!
TSK...
SWEEEET! BUT WORDS ARE JUST THE CHALLENGE!
ONCE YA SLAP SOMEONE'S FACE, YA GOTTA DUEL TO THE DEATH!!!
DO I HEAR THREATS? FIGHTIN' WORDS?
Upu pu pu...!
MONOKUMA ...!
DON'T WANNA ADMIT THE GANGSTER GOT MORE SENSE THAN YOU? HOW HILARIOUS YA WANNA TRUST EVERYONE LIKE THEY WERE FRIENDS ...
...WHEN YA DON'T KNOW SQUAT ABOUT EACH OTHER.
D-DON'T BE STUPID! NO ONE'S COMMITTING MURDER!
BUT IT AIN'T NO USE, IS IT? Y'ALL ARE GONNA KILL EACH--
fling
WHAT ARE YOU GETTING AT ...?
gulp
WHAT COULD YA HOPE TA KNOW... WHEN YA DON'T EVEN REMEMBER HOW YOU CAME HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE ...?
Upu pu pu...
YOU'VE FORGOTTEN... 'CUZ MONOMI STOLE AAALLLL YER MEMORIES 'BOUT LIFE DURIN' HIGH SCHOOL...

SEE, Y'ALL AREN'T REALLY NEW STUDENTS AT ALL. SHE JUST DUPED YA INTO THINKIN' THAT BY STEALIN' YER MEMORIES!
I'LL BE NICE AN' LET YA IN ON THE SECRET SINCE MONOMI'S BEIN' A FUDDY-DUDDY.
HO-WA-WA!
?!

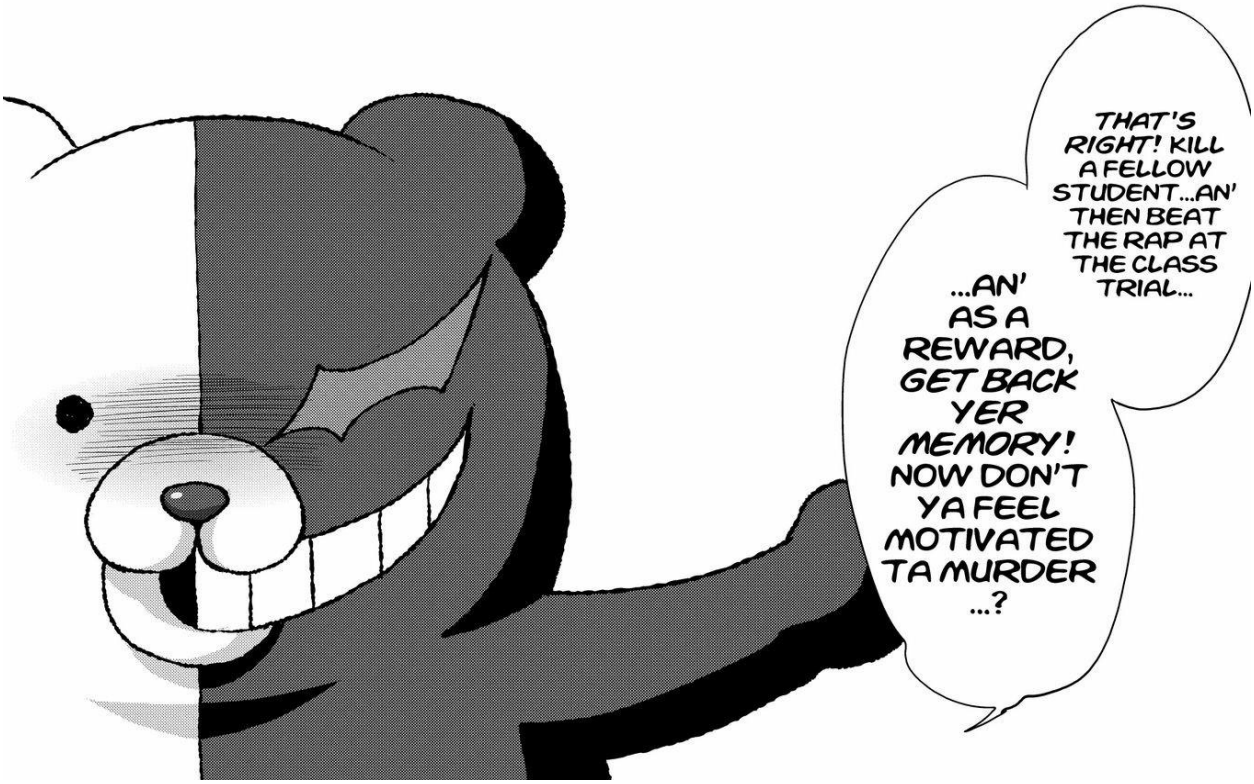
SAY, REMEMBER THEM WEIRD DIZZY SPELLS? YA KNOW...THE ONES WHEN YA SET FOOT IN HOPE'S PEAK ACADEMY ...?
BEAR'S HONOR!
PRE-POS-TER-OUS...

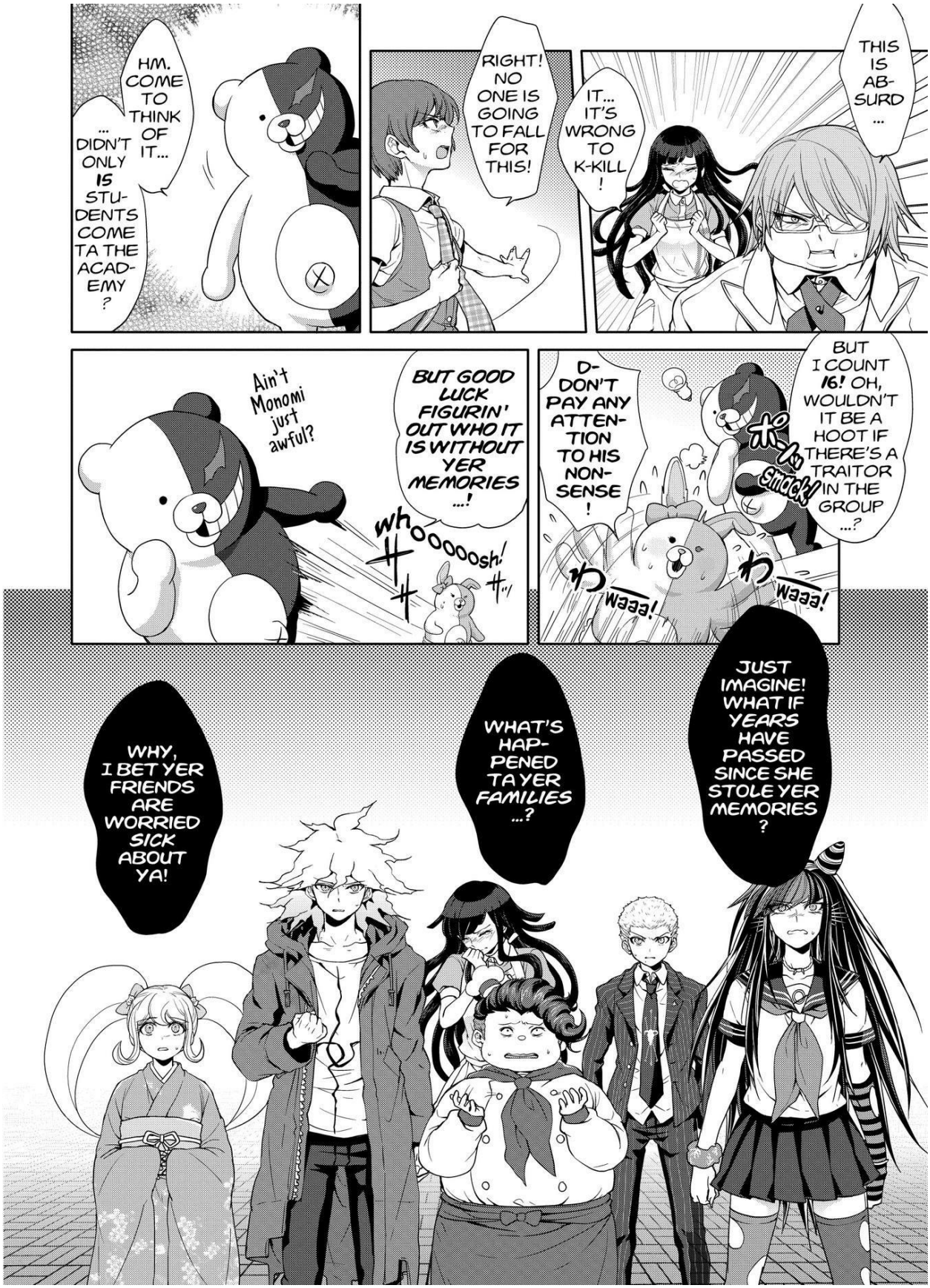
WHAT CONDI-TION ...?

パンタ da パカ
BUT I'LL GIVE YA YER MEMORIES BACK...
...ON ONE CONDI-TION.
パンパンパンパン

A dizzy spell...?

I NEED A CORPSE FIRST.


THAT'S RIGHT! KILL A FELLOW STUDENT...AN' THEN BEAT THE RAP AT THE CLASS TRIAL...
...AN' AS A REWARD, GET BACK YER MEMORY! NOW DON'T YA FEEL MOTIVATED TA MURDER ...?


HM. COME TO THINK OF IT...
... DIDN'T ONLY 15 STU-DENTS COME TA THE ACAD-EMY ?
RIGHT! NO ONE IS GOING TO FALL FOR THIS!
IT... IT'S WRONG TO K-KILL !
THIS IS AB-SURD ...
Ain't Monomi just awful?
BUT GOOD LUCK FIGURIN' OUT WHO IT IS WITHOUT YER MEMORIES ...!
whooooosh!
D-DON'T PAY ANY ATTEN-TION TO HIS NON-SENSE !
BUT I COUNT 16! OH, WOULDN'T IT BE A HOOT IF THERE'S A TRAITOR IN THE GROUP ...?
smack!
waaa!
waaa!
WHY, I BET YER FRIENDS ARE WORRIED SICK ABOUT YA!
WHAT'S HAP-PENED TA YER FAMILIES ...?
JUST IMAGINE! WHAT IF YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE SHE STOLE YER MEMORIES ?

...AN' TA TOP IT OFF...RIGHT NOW...YA MIGHT BE STANDIN' NEXT TA A TRAITOR.
...Y'ALL DON'T KNOW ABOUT EACH OTHER ...
'CUZ WHEN YA GET DOWN TO IT...
キャー kyaaa!
TEAM PLAY IS FER THE BIRDS !
VICTORY TO THE QUICK-EST!
K.O.!!
IF YA WANNA SURVIVE, KILL... BEFORE SOMEONE KILLS YOU!!
...SO Y'ALL WILL NEVER NOTICE IF YER CLASSMATE IS PLOTTIN' TA TAKE YER LIFE.
ON THAT NOTE, BUH-BYE!
Upu pu pu pu pu...

...
UM...

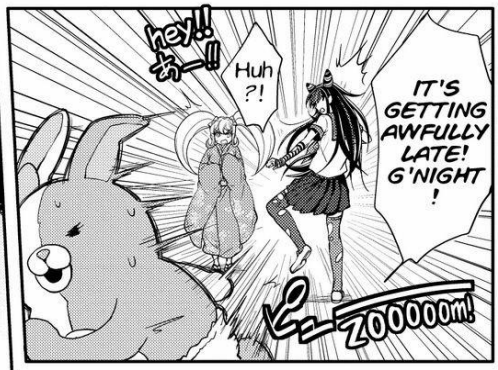
sweat
sweat
S-SO... UM, UH...
sweat
sweat

flail!
WHAT CAN I SAY...? I-I'M ON YOUR SIDE!

...

WELL... UH, GEE...
pop!
HEY, MONO-MI. IS WHAT HE SAID TRUE?

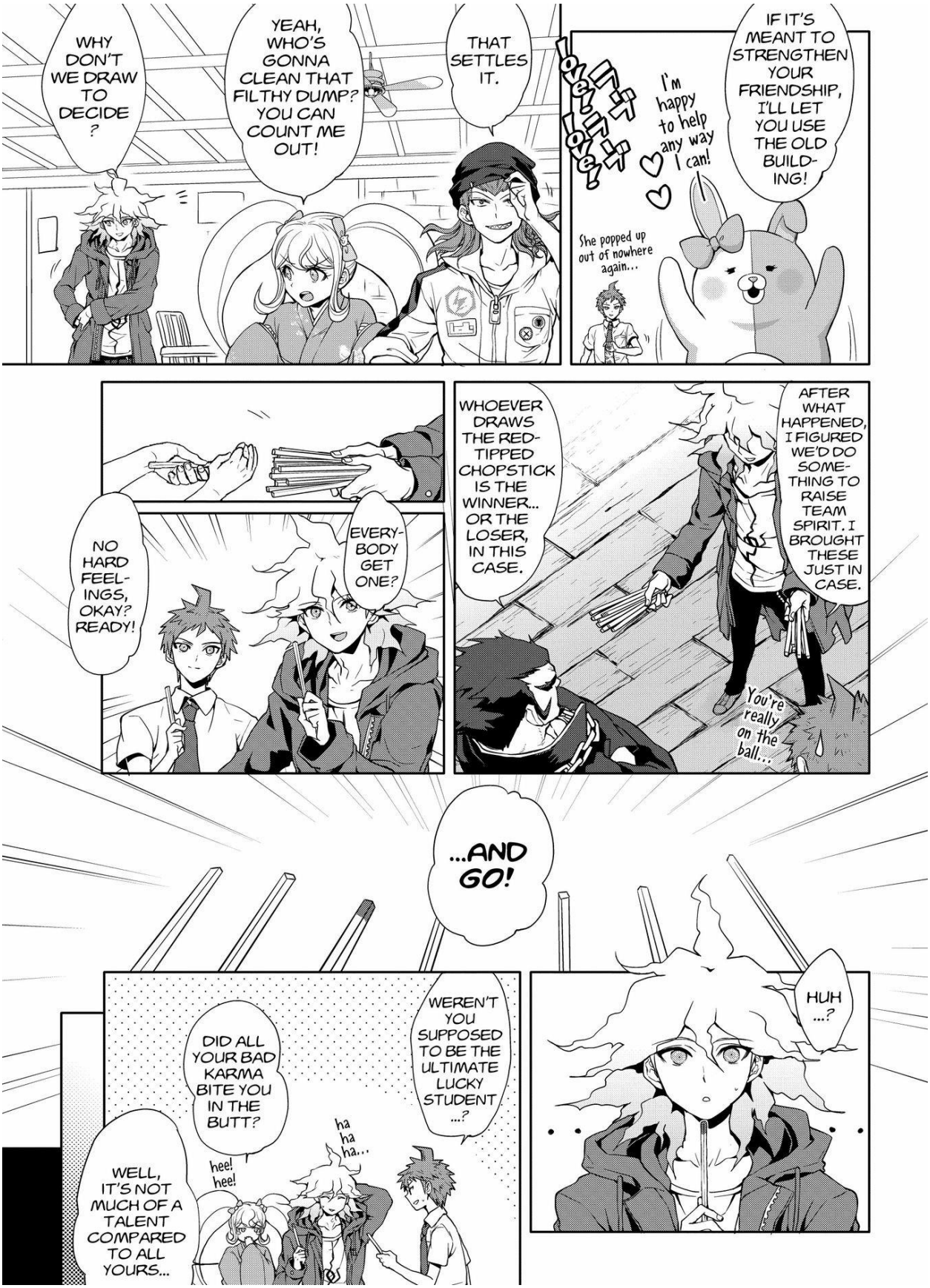
MONO-KUMA MEN-TIONED A TRAI-TOR...


hey!!
Huh?!
IT'S GETTING AWFULLY LATE! G'NIGHT!
zooooom!

I-IT ISN'T ME, EITHER!
D-DON'T LOOK AT ME!
Could it be one of them...?
But the way I can't remember my own talent, it might even be me...

...AS MONOMI SAID, IT IS GETTING LATE. A FULL NIGHT'S REST WOULD DO US ALL GOOD.
H-HE'S RIGHT! EVERY-ONE, PLEASE CALM YOUR-SELVES!
OBVI-OUSLY, NONE OF US ARE TRAI-TORS.
STOP! DON'T BE DE-CEIVED BY THAT BEAR'S FALLA-CIES!
Next Day...
WE WILL RECON-VENE AT THE RESTAURANT TOMORROW MORNING. IS THAT UNDER-STOOD ...?
DON'T WASTE YOUR BRAIN-POWER ON ISSUES BEYOND YOUR MENTAL CAPA-CITY!
A-A PARTY ...?!

YES, YOU HEARD ME. AS LEADER, I AM HOSTING THE PARTY TONIGHT. ATTENDANCE, AND FUN, IS MANDATORY.
W-WITH ALL THAT'S GOING ON?
THAT IS WHY.
YOU ALL HEARD HOW MONOKUMA TRIED TO WIND US UP...
...WELL, WE WON'T BE HIS TOYS. LET'S AMUSE OURSELVES INSTEAD.
I'M FOR IT!
MONOKUMA IS TRYING TO PUSH US INTO MAKING A HORRIBLE MISTAKE BY TEARING US APART...
...SO WOULDN'T THAT MAKE THIS THE PERFECT TIME TO STRENGTHEN OUR BONDS ?
Y-YEAH... YOU'RE RIGHT!
SO WHERE DID YOU HAVE IN MIND?
YOU DON'T WANT MONOKUMA CRASHING THE PARTY ...
UNFORTUNATELY, MONOMI SAYS THAT BUILDING IS OFF LIMITS...
I HEARD YOU'RE PLANNING A PARTY !
WE NEED AN ENCLOSED SPACE... IDEALLY, IT SHOULD BE SOMEWHERE EVEN MONOKUMA COULDN'T SNEAK INTO...
AH! THEN HOW ABOUT THE OLD BUILDING? IT'S A MESS, BUT IT OUGHT TO BE USEABLE AFTER A GOOD CLEANING.


WHY DON'T WE DRAW TO DECIDE?
YEAH, WHO'S GONNA CLEAN THAT FILTHY DUMP? YOU CAN COUNT ME OUT!
THAT SETTLES IT.
IF IT'S MEANT TO STRENGTHEN YOUR FRIENDSHIP, I'LL LET YOU USE THE OLD BUILDING!
I'm happy to help any way I can!
She popped up out of nowhere again...
NO HARD FEELINGS, OKAY? READY!
EVERYBODY GET ONE?
WHOEVER DRAWS THE RED-TIPPED CHOPSTICK IS THE WINNER... OR THE LOSER, IN THIS CASE.
AFTER WHAT HAPPENED, I FIGURED WE'D DO SOMETHING TO RAISE TEAM SPIRIT. I BROUGHT THESE JUST IN CASE.
You're really on the ball...
...AND GO!
HUH...?
WEREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE THE ULTIMATE LUCKY STUDENT...?
DID ALL YOUR BAD KARMA BITE YOU IN THE BUTT?
ha ha ha...
hee! hee!
WELL, IT'S NOT MUCH OF A TALENT COMPARED TO ALL YOURS...

HEY, CAN WE DIG IN...?
pant!
pant!
WHAT DID YOU EXPECT? I AM THE ULTIMATE CHEF!
WOW! THIS FOOD ...!
creak
This is already a feast fit for a rock 'n' roll queen!
CHECK OUT THE CHOW! TERUTERU, YOU DIDN'T HOLD BACK!
OH, C'MON! LET'S GET STARTED ALREADY!
...WHAT THE HECK IS WRONG WITH TOGAMI ...?!
OH... YEAH, YOU HAD TO GET IT READY IN A HURRY. MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE COME TO HELP OUT...
...SORRY, I DID THE BEST I COULD, BUT I DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO DO MORE AFTER ALL THE DUSTING...
?!
WHOA! GAPS BETWEEN THE FLOORBOARDS ...
At least the rug covers most of them...
um...
Isn't that crossing the line?!
AND THEN THE JERK CONFISCATED IT!
creeaak
swish!
...
"DANGEROUS."
HE CALLED THE SCREWDRIVER PASSED DOWN IN MY FAMILY FOR GENERATIONS...
Gaaah, that was disgusting!
I CAME ALL EXCITED ABOUT THE PARTY, BUT GETTIN' PATTED DOWN BY HIM WAS A TOTAL NIGHTMARE...
OH, THE BODY SEARCH AT THE ENTRANCE? YEAH, HE WAS STRICT ABOUT THAT.

ONE CONTAINS CONFIS-CATED ITEMS...THE OTHER, SAFETY EQUIPMENT IN CASE OF EMERGEN-CY.
...WHAT ARE THOSE ?
WE COULDN'T GET HIM TO...
AS EXPECTED, KUZURYU DIDN'T COME... OTHERWISE, A FULL ATTEN-DANCE.
How will we eat?
All of them?
I HAVE ALSO CONFISCATED ALL POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS KNIVES AND FORKS FROM THE KITCHEN.
THEY'RE LOCKED UP TIGHT.
...WELL, THIS IS AN OLD BUILDING. IT WAS ALREADY MISSING BY THE TIME I GOT HERE. I WONDER WHERE IT COULD BE...
KITCHEN EQUIPMENT LIST
FORK x 20
KNIFE x 20
SPOON x 20
IRON SKEWER x 5
FRY PAN x 3
WINE GLASS x 20
BBQ HOT PLATE
INGREDIENTS, SPICES, ETC.
I NOTICED THE NUMBER OF SKEWERS DOESN'T MATCH THE LIST...
THANK-FULLY IT'S ALL JUST ABOUT DONE...
CAN YOU BELIEVE IT? TOGAMI HERE ROBBED ME OF MY UTENSILS...
UH... UM...ARE YOU REALLY SURE M-MONOKUMA WON'T CRASH THE PARTY ...?
fidget
THAT IS MY DUTY AS YOUR LEADER.
IF SOME-THING SHOULD HAPPEN, REST AT EASE KNOWING THAT I WILL PROTECT YOU NO MATTER WHAT.
Wow! Too kewl, Togami!
TOGA-MI...

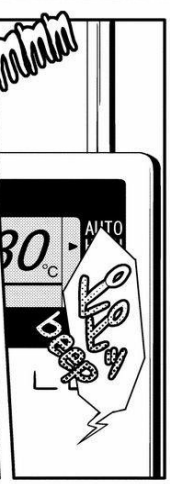
I'm happy to help!
NATURALLY, I WON'T BE ALONE.
REMEMBER HOW MONOMI SAID SHE'D HELP OUT ANY WAY SHE COULD?
...
B-BUT...
SERIOUSLY?! WHY DO YOU HAVE TO BE SUCH A KILLJOY? GET A CLUE!
Lame-brain!
IT WOULD BE DANGEROUS ON YOUR OWN...
...UM, WOULD IT MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER IF I STOOD WATCH AT THE ENTRANCE?
hahh
hahh
C'MON! CAN WE START EATING NOW?! PLEASE?!
hahh
hahh
YEP! WELL, I'M GOING TO STAND WATCH WITH MONOMI AT THE FRONT.
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?
AH...
I BET WITH A BIT OF ENCOURAGEMENT, SHE'D BE WILLING TO TAKE ON MONOKUMA IF HE SHOWED UP.
LET'S PARTY!
klink!
カン
Chee
Sweeeet!!
Yaaay!
I SUPPOSE I HAVE NO QUALMS IF YOU WISH TO DINE...
ぱーりぃ
Cheers!

bump
!!
MAHIRU, GET US OVER HERE!
FINE FOR THEM!

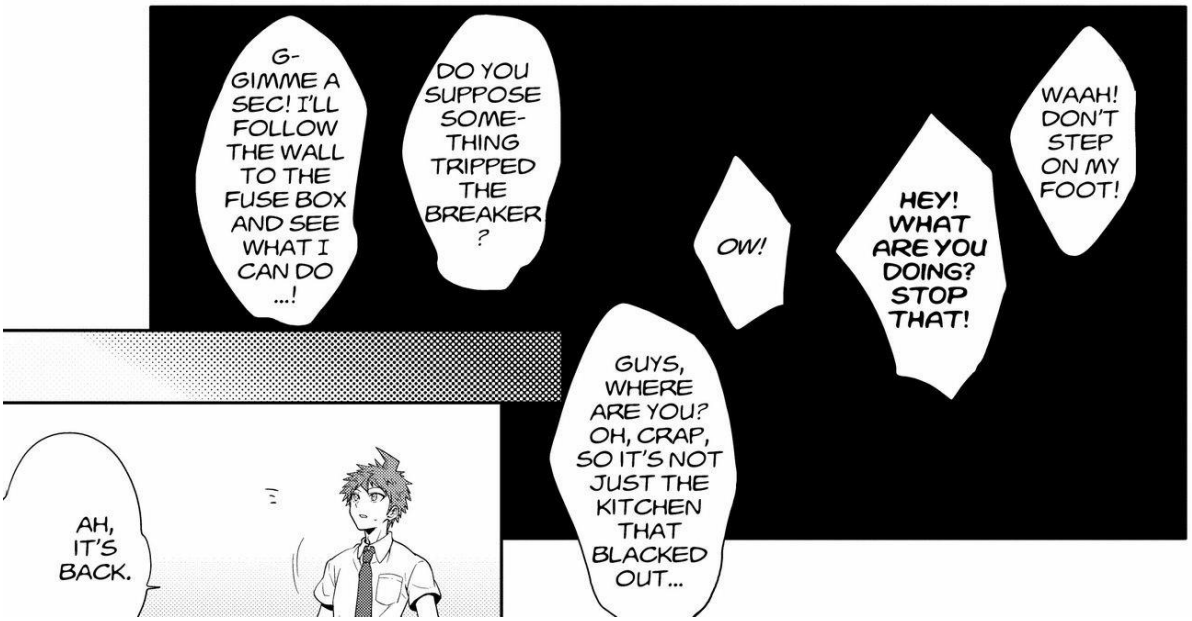
snap!
CHEESE!

...Hell Hound Earring!!
I-I lost my...
S-Sorry...

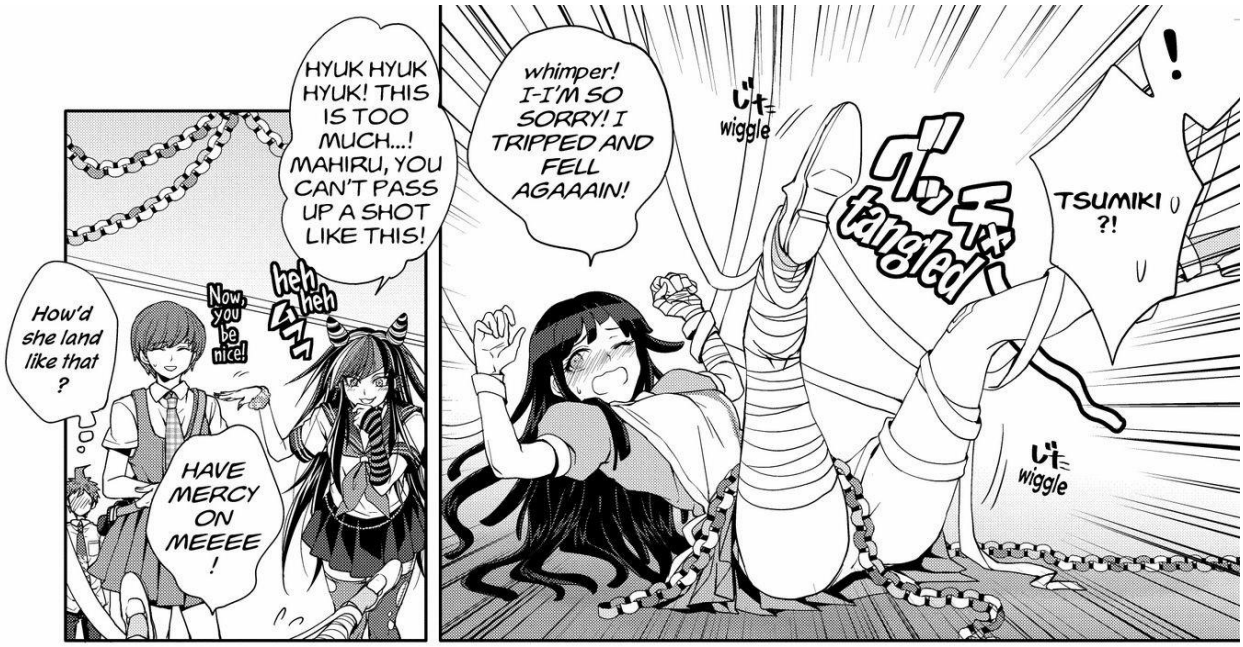
I CAN'T SEE A THING!
Huh ...?!
HEY! THE POWER'S OUT!


AUTO
beep

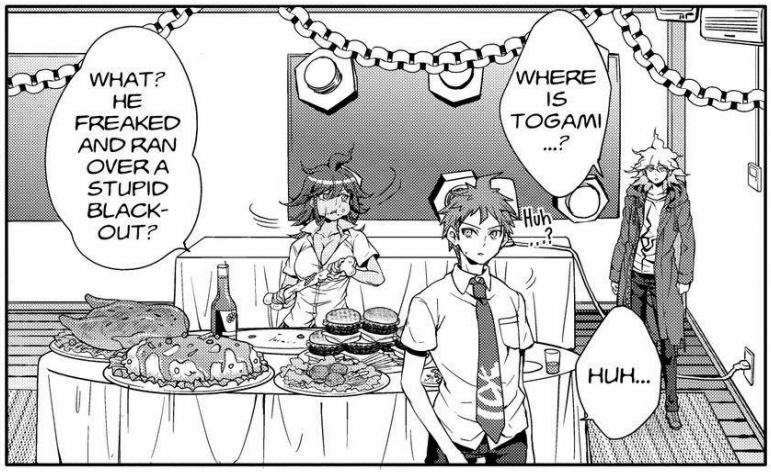
WHEW...
...I WAS AFRAID HOW THEY'D REACT AFTER YESTERDAY, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE EVERYONE IS ENJOYING THEM-SELVES.
sigh


G-GIMME A SEC! I'LL FOLLOW THE WALL TO THE FUSE BOX AND SEE WHAT I CAN DO ...!
DO YOU SUPPOSE SOME-THING TRIPPED THE BREAKER?
OW!
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING? STOP THAT!
WAAH! DON'T STEP ON MY FOOT!
GUYS, WHERE ARE YOU? OH, CRAP, SO IT'S NOT JUST THE KITCHEN THAT BLACKED OUT...

AH, IT'S BACK.

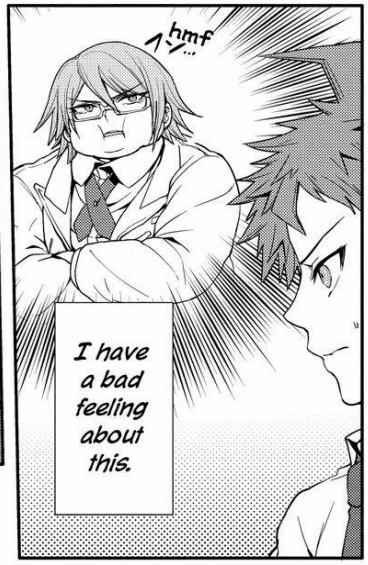

HYUK HYUK HYUK! THIS IS TOO MUCH...! MAHIRU, YOU CAN'T PASS UP A SHOT LIKE THIS!
heh heh
Now, you be nice!
How'd she land like that ?
HAVE MERCY ON MEEEE !

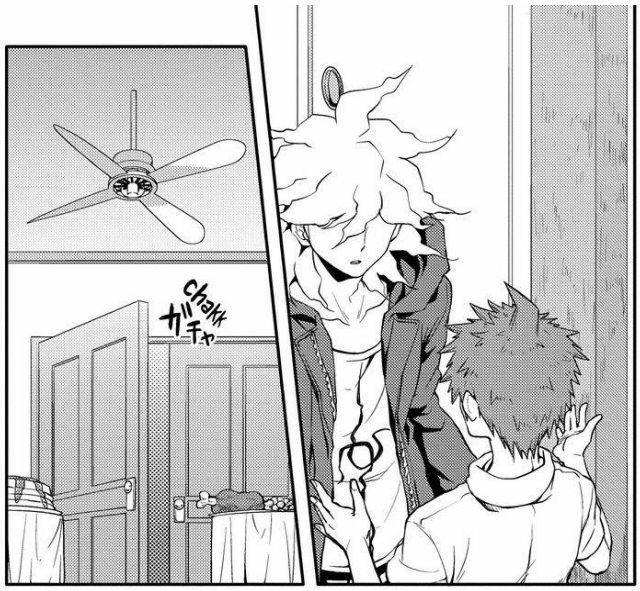
whimper! I-I'M SO SORRY! I TRIPPED AND FELL AGAAAIN!
wiggle
tangled
TSUMIKI ?!
!
wiggle

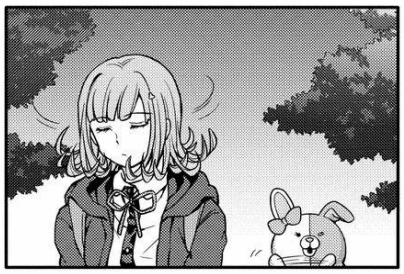

WHAT? HE FREAKED AND RAN OVER A STUPID BLACK-OUT?
WHERE IS TOGAMI ...?
Huh ?
HUH...

THE LIGHTS ARE ON OUT HERE, TOO.
They popped back on their own.

UH, OKAY...
I'LL GO CHECK THE STORAGE ROOM.
THIS DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT. LET'S ALL SEARCH FOR HIM.


hmf...
I have a bad feeling about this.


Chaka
ガチャ



Togami... where did you go?

DID YOU FIND HIM?
NAH... I CAN'T FIND HIM ANY-WHERE.

FROM OVER THERE ...

Blood ...?!
THIS PLACE STINKS.
I COULD SWEAR...IT SMELLS LIKE BLOOD.

HM ...?
sniff

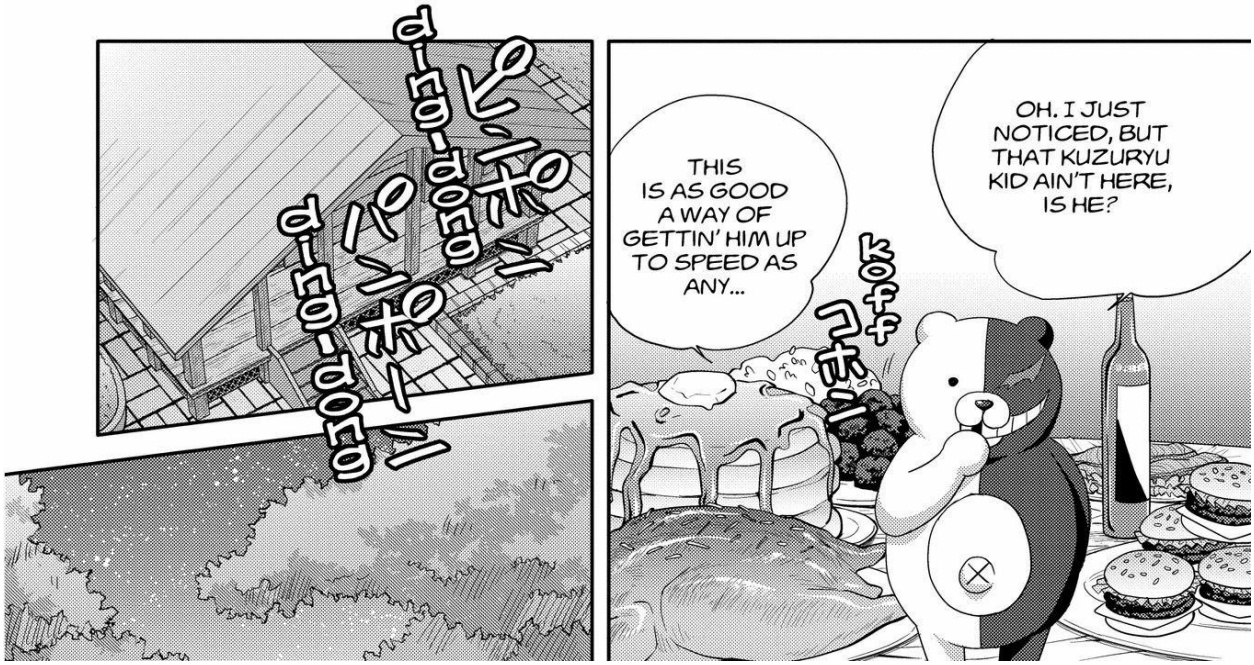
HINATA ...
?!!
...TOGAMI !!

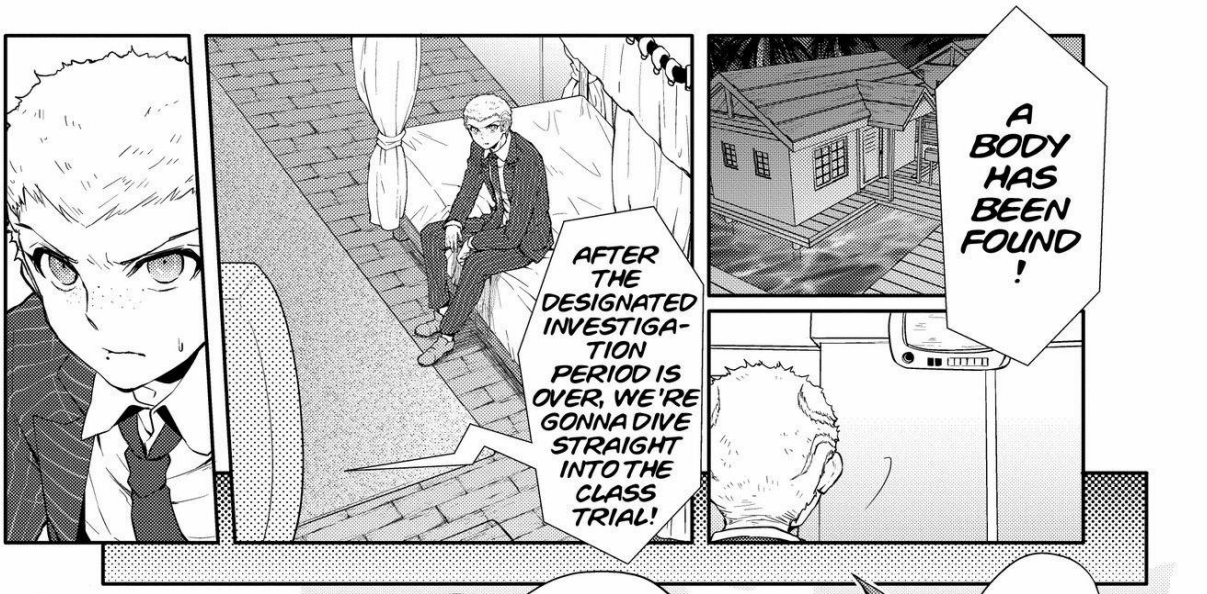
キャアアア
Kyaaaaaa!
ドッ
lub-dup
ドッ
lub-dup
ドッ
lub-dup
Is this for real...?!
Is this really happening...?
ドッ
lub-dup
ドッ
lub-dup
And... why...?!

CHAPTER 2 [PART ONE]: THE FIRST MURDER

AWFUL ENTERTAININ', THAT IS!
MY, MY! WHO'D A THUNK THIS'D TURN OUT SO AWFUL...?
doooooom
MONOKUMA ...!
whirl
パッ
REDUCED TO A DESERTED RESORT OF DESPAIR, JABBERWOCK ISLAND HAS FINALLY BECOME THE STAGE FOR THE FIRST MURDER!
I BET THE PUNK WHO SHANKED 'IM COULDN'T WAIT TO GET OFF THIS ISLAND AND GET BACK THEIR MEMORIES ...!
SURE DO! ONE OF YOU LIL' FREAKS WENT AN' CUT THE BIG GUY DOWN!
M-MURDER?! YOU... DON'T MEAN...

...murdered by one of us?

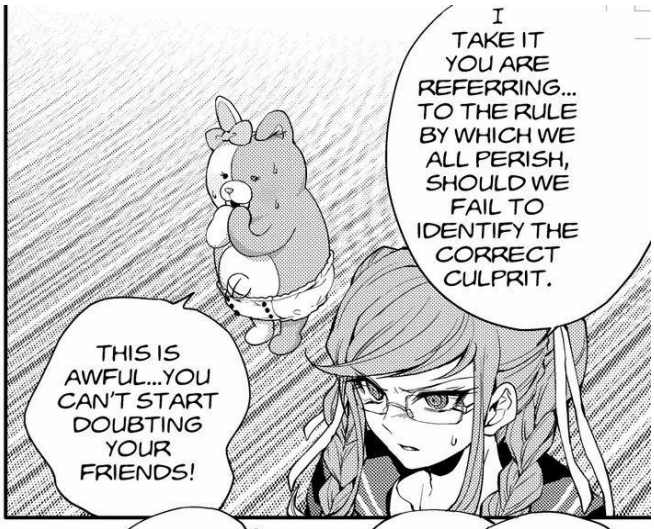



A BODY HAS BEEN FOUND!
AFTER THE DESIGNATED INVESTIGATION PERIOD IS OVER, WE'RE GONNA DIVE STRAIGHT INTO THE CLASS TRIAL!

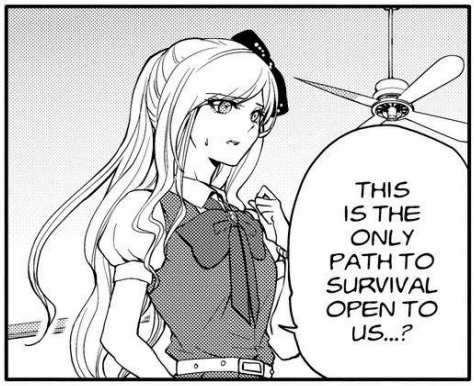
CLASS TRIAL...?
TIME FER A MAKE-UP LESSON! IF SOMEONE COMMITS MURDER, Y'ALL GOTTA DEBATE WHO'S THE PERP HIDIN' AMONG US!
SO PUT ON THEM THINKIN' CAPS, KIDS!

ARE YOU SUGGESTING SOMEONE FROM OUR CLASS KILLED TOGAMI...?
IT...IT CAN'T BE TRUE...I DON'T BELIEVE IT...! HOW COULD SOMEONE KILL A FELLOW CLASSMATE?!
DUMMIES!
YER A BUNCH A' STICKY-ICKY, CAVITY-INDUCIN' SUCKERS! YOU'LL NEVER BEAT THE CULPRIT LIKE THIS!
SMACK!
DONTCHA REMEMBER THE RULES? NOW THAT WE'VE GOT A MURDER ON OUR PAWS, YER PLAYIN' A GAME OF LIFE OR DEATH WITH THE KILLER!

IS THIS REALLY... OUR ONLY OPTION ...?
I'M NOT FALLING FOR IT! I REFUSE TO BELIEVE THIS IS HAPPENING...!
I-I DON'T WANT TO...

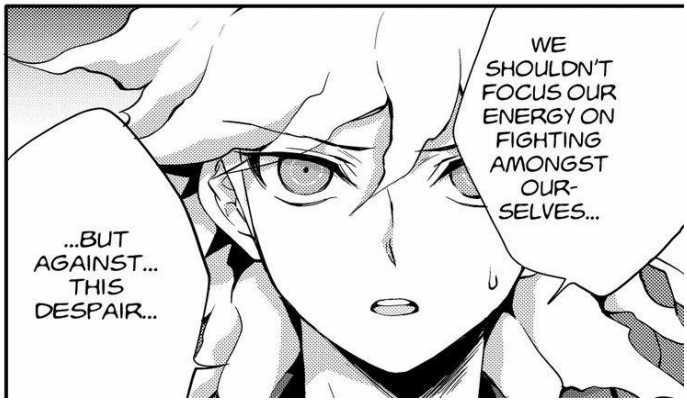

I TAKE IT YOU ARE REFERRING... TO THE RULE BY WHICH WE ALL PERISH, SHOULD WE FAIL TO IDENTIFY THE CORRECT CULPRIT.
THIS IS AWFUL...YOU CAN'T START DOUBTING YOUR FRIENDS!

BUT YOU CAN'T DENY THE FACT *SOMEONE* KILLED HAM HANDS!
LIKE IT OR NOT, WE HAVE TO INVESTI-GATE HIS MURDER IF *WE* DON'T WANT TO DIE.

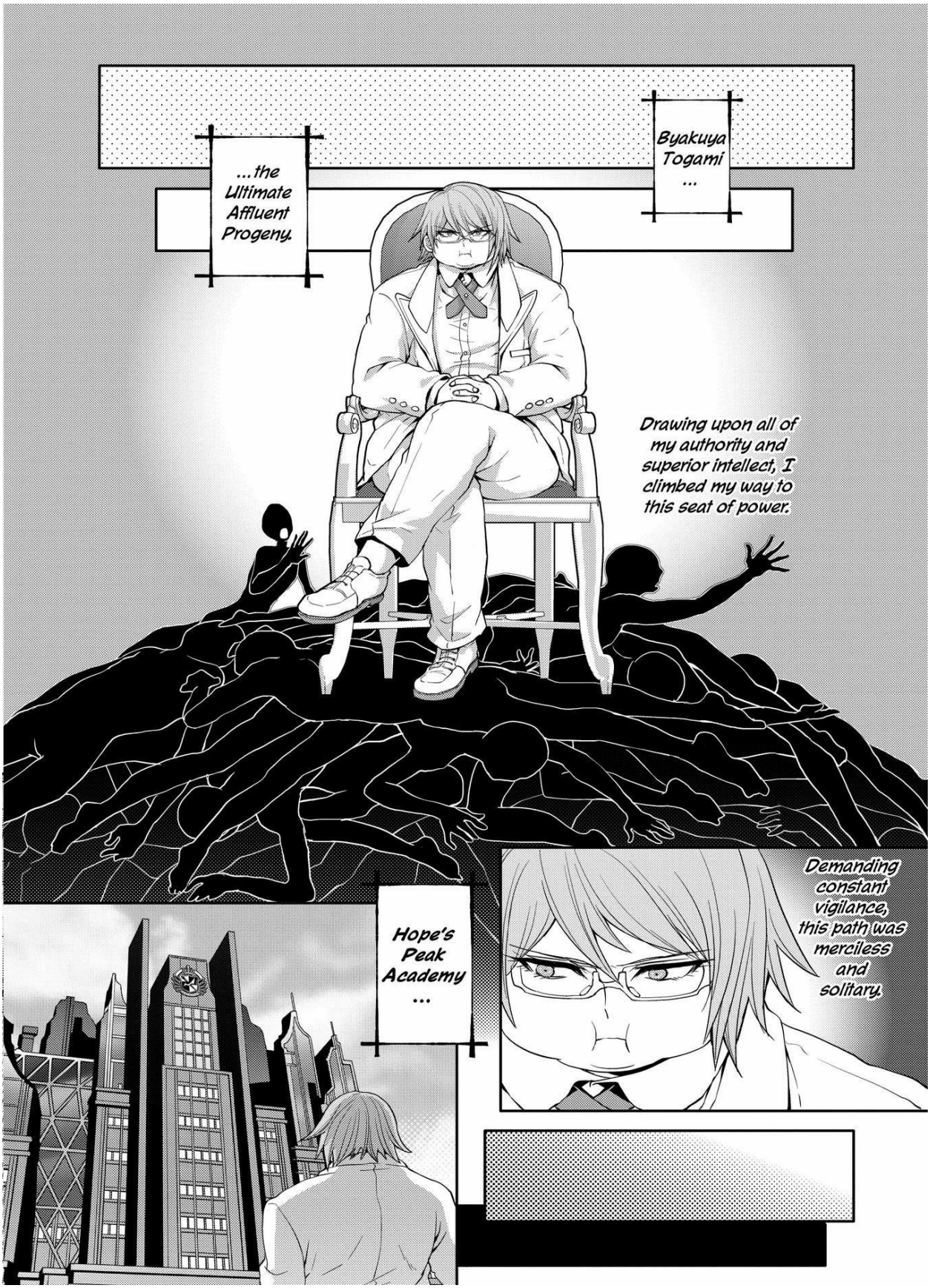

THIS IS THE ONLY PATH TO SURVIVAL OPEN TO US...?

I WANT TO BELIEVE EVERYONE AS WELL, BUT...
...THAT IS PRECISELY WHY I AM GOING TO INVESTIGATE TOGAMI'S DEATH...I'LL DO IT **BECAUSE** I BELIEVE IN ALL OF YOU.

IT'S THE LAST SLIVER OF HOPE LEFT...


WE SHOULDN'T FOCUS OUR ENERGY ON FIGHTING AMONGST OUR-SELVES...
...BUT AGAINST... THIS DESPAIR...

'CUZ I'M WAY SUPERIOR TO A CERTAIN INCOMPETENT MASCOT THAT CAN'T DO SQUAT!
I-INCOM-PETENT ?! You're so cruel...
THE MONO-KUMA FILE...
UPU PU! I SEE YOU'VE FINALLY COME AROUND.
FER BEIN' SUCH GOOD CHILDREN, Y'ALL CAN HAVE THIS FREE MONOKUMA FILE!
80 bucks in the campus bookstore!
Hope... Is there any hope in this ...?
ta-daa!
huh
AN' BEIN' THE COMPAS-SIONATE BEAR I AM, I THREW TOGETHER A REPORT THAT ACCURATELY DETAILS THE STIFF!
I DON'T EXPECT A BUNCH OF LOUSY AMATEURS TO CRACK THIS CASE WITHOUT SOME HINTS!
clench
...but that didn't mean you should sacrifice yourself...
You swore none of us would die on your watch...
Togami... It's still hard for me to believe you're truly gone...
ONOKUMA FILE
BYAKUYA TOGAMI
AUTOPSY REPORT
C'MON, KIDDOS! THERE AIN'T MUCH TIME LEFT TILL THE CLASS TRIAL!
START INVESTIGATIN' LIKE YER LIFE DEPENDS ON IT!
'Cause it does.

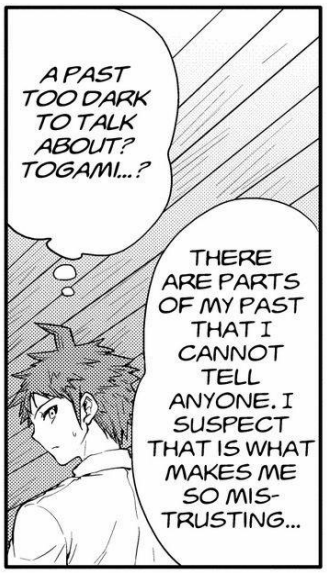

Byakuya Togami ...
...the Ultimate Affluent Progeny.
Drawing upon all of my authority and superior intellect, I climbed my way to this seat of power.
Demanding constant vigilance, this path was merciless and solitary.
Hope's Peak Academy ...

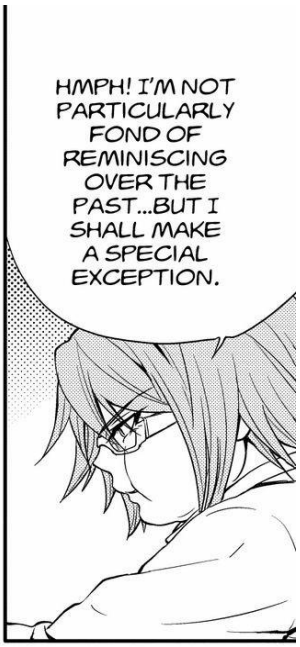
This was a far cry from what I expected out of high school...
...LET US COMMENCE INVESTIGATING THE ISLAND!
Mono-mi.
Mono-kuma.
BUT FIRST ALLOW ME TO MAKE ONE THING PERFECTLY CLEAR...
...NONE OF YOU HAVE TIME TO DWELL ON THAT MURDER NONSENSE. FOCUS ALL OF YOUR ENERGY ON YOUR OWN DUTIES.
whoosh!
REST AT EASE KNOWING THAT I WILL PROTECT YOU NO MATTER WHAT!
OBSERVE, SPECULATE, IDENTIFY, AND COMPREHEND. IF YOU CAN'T DO THAT, AT LEAST KEEP YOUR BODY MOVING.
YOU WON'T LAST LONG IF YOU JUST STAND AROUND. AND WHEN YOU'RE FINISHED HERE, YOU'LL NEVER RETURN TO YOUR NORMAL LIFE!
HAVE I MADE MYSELF CLEAR? I'M ISSUING THESE ORDERS AS YOUR LEADER.
I WON'T ALLOW ANY OF YOU TO DIE ON MY WATCH!

IT'S STINKIN' ADORABLE ...!
So cuuuteee!
"H-HAM HANDS" ...?
WOW! THAT WAS TOO KEWL FOR WORDS!
TOGAMI ...
YOU'RE NOT UPSET ...?
OVER SOME-THING SO TRIVIAL ?
I NEVER DREAMED TO SEE THE DAY PEOPLE WOULD CALL ME "HAM HANDS"...
I'M CALLING YOU "HAM HANDS" FROM NOW ON!
THE WAY YOU WHIPPED OUT YOUR CHUBBY RIGHT HAND WAS AWESOME !
MY GOD! THE MAN HAS A HEART AS BIG AS HIS GIRTH! YOU'RE AMAZINGGG !
I'm blinded by your brilliance!!
Y-YEAH...
HEH! PERHAPS THIS IS WHAT I LONGED FOR ALL ALONG...
THIS IS THE NICKNAME THEY DECIDED AFTER OBSERVING ME AS AN INDIVIDUAL... THEIR EVALUATION IS FREE OF DECEPTION AND DECEIT...
Yay!
Ham Hands! Ham Hands!
...in this strange setting, isolated from the constraints of the outside world.
Perhaps a part of me...felt as though I finally found a place where I belonged...

rip
flap
...ISN'T THIS--?!
AD-DRESSED TO ME? FROM WHOM?
十神白夜
EH...? WHAT WAS THAT?
I MEAN TO UPHOLD MY WORD TO ENSURE THERE ISN'T A SINGLE VICTIM.
I'M MERELY TAKING SOME EXTRA PRECAU-TIONARY MEASURES.
...H-HEY... WOULD IT KILL YOU TO EASE UP A BIT? IT'S JUST A PARTY...!
pat
pat
UM...BY ANY CHANCE, DID SOMETHING HAPPEN? IS THAT WHY YOU SUDDENLY DECIDED TO THROW THIS PARTY?
...
THERE REALLY ISN'T MORE TO IT?
...NOTHING OF THE SORT. I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN SUSPICIOUS BY NATURE.

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU ...?

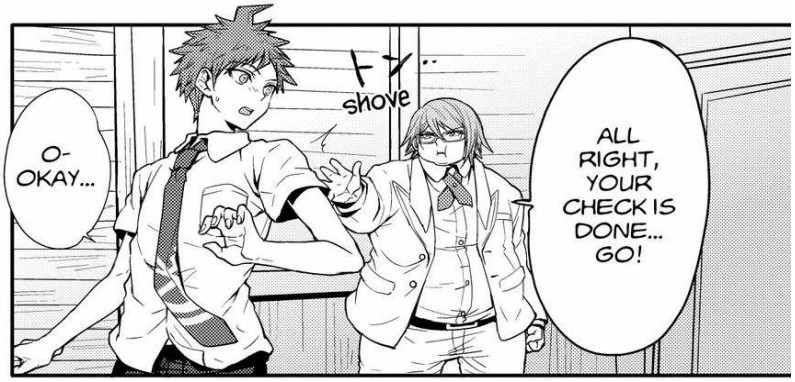

A PAST TOO DARK TO TALK ABOUT? TOGAMI...?
THERE ARE PARTS OF MY PAST THAT I CANNOT TELL ANYONE. I SUSPECT THAT IS WHAT MAKES ME SO MISTRUSTING...


HMPH! I'M NOT PARTICULARLY FOND OF REMINISCING OVER THE PAST...BUT I SHALL MAKE A SPECIAL EXCEPTION.

THIS ISN'T THE RIGHT TIME TO SAY.
BUT I'M SURE THE TIME WILL COME EVENTUALLY IF WE CAN MAKE IT THROUGH THIS IN PEACE.

I WAS CAUGHT IN AN ENDLESS CYCLE OF DOUBT AND SUSPICION...
IT'S NO WONDER MY PERSONALITY WAS WARPED BY THE PURGATORY IN WHICH I SPENT MY DAYS...

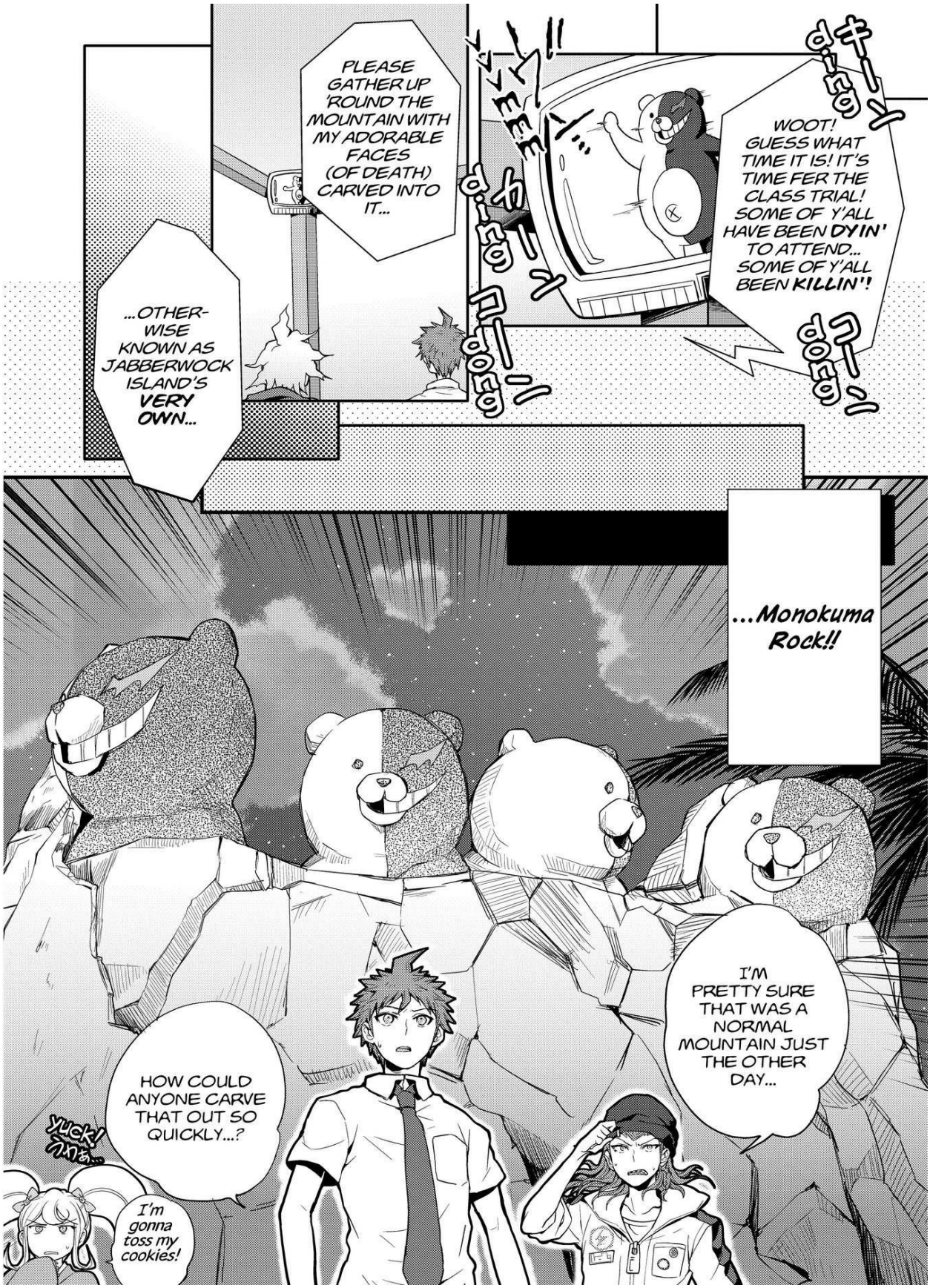
Thinking back, perhaps I was doing this as a form of atonement.
I'm confiscating this...
It's dangerous.
Ugeeeh.

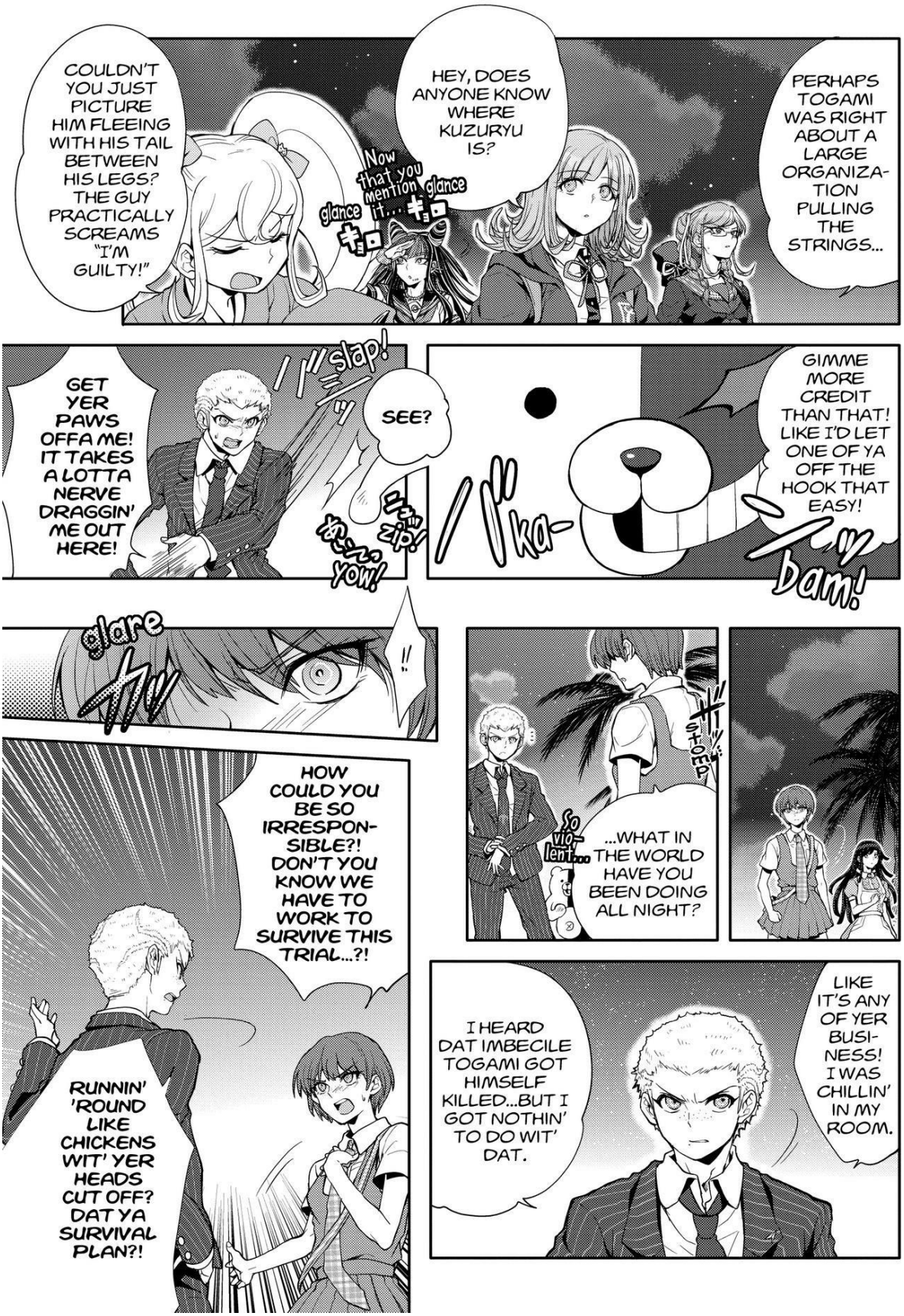

O-OKAY...
shove
ALL RIGHT, YOUR CHECK IS DONE... GO!

...

tak
Ayy
Ayy tak
tak Ayy
Ayy tak

creeeak
To make amends for all the lives I've sacrificed...
...I was hoping to do something for my fellow class-mates...
HEY! THE POWER'S OUT!
WAAAH! DON'T STEP ON MY FOOT!
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
gasp!
OW!
fwshh
thokk
...here on this island where I can...
koff
...truly be myself...


WOOT! GUESS WHAT TIME IT IS! IT'S TIME FER THE CLASS TRIAL! SOME OF Y'ALL HAVE BEEN DYIN' TO ATTEND... SOME OF Y'ALL BEEN KILLIN'!
PLEASE GATHER UP 'ROUND THE MOUNTAIN WITH MY ADORABLE FACES (OF DEATH) CARVED INTO IT...
...OTHER-WISE KNOWN AS JABBERWOCK ISLAND'S VERY OWN...
...Monokuma Rock!!
I'M PRETTY SURE THAT WAS A NORMAL MOUNTAIN JUST THE OTHER DAY...
HOW COULD ANYONE CARVE THAT OUT SO QUICKLY...?
YUCK! うわぁ...
I'm gonna toss my cookies!


COULDN'T YOU JUST PICTURE HIM FLEEING WITH HIS TAIL BETWEEN HIS LEGS? THE GUY PRACTICALLY SCREAMS "I'M GUILTY!"
HEY, DOES ANYONE KNOW WHERE KUZURYU IS?
Now that you mention it...
glance キョロ
glance キョロ
PERHAPS TOGAMI WAS RIGHT ABOUT A LARGE ORGANIZATION PULLING THE STRINGS...
GET YER PAWS OFFA ME! IT TAKES A LOTTA NERVE DRAGGIN' ME OUT HERE!
slap!
SEE?
zip!
yow!
GIMME MORE CREDIT THAN THAT! LIKE I'D LET ONE OF YA OFF THE HOOK THAT EASY!
ka-
bam!
glare
!!
HOW COULD YOU BE SO IRRESPONSIBLE?! DON'T YOU KNOW WE HAVE TO WORK TO SURVIVE THIS TRIAL...?!
RUNNIN' 'ROUND LIKE CHICKENS WIT' YER HEADS CUT OFF? DAT YA SURVIVAL PLAN?!
stomp
So violent...
...WHAT IN THE WORLD HAVE YOU BEEN DOING ALL NIGHT?
I HEARD DAT IMBECILE TOGAMI GOT HIMSELF KILLED...BUT I GOT NOTHIN' TO DO WIT' DAT.
LIKE IT'S ANY OF YER BUSINESS! I WAS CHILLIN' IN MY ROOM.

W-WHAT THE HELL...?!
W-WHAT'S GOING ON?!
A TREMOR...?!
NOW, IT'S REAL SIMPLE. YA TAKE THE ESCALATOR UP TA THE ELEVATOR, WHICH GOES DOWN TA THE COURTROOM.
WHY MAKE JUSTICE SO COMPLICATED, YA ASK? WELL, IF THE LAWS MADE SENSE...
...I'D BE OUTTA A JOB! U PU PUU!
I GUESS THERE AIN'T NO LIMIT TO WHAT HE CAN DO...
What a head-ache...
ha ha...
D-DON'T THINK TOO MUCH ABOUT IT...WE SHOULD GET MOV-ING.
HMPH!

Togami ...
...was a condescending egomaniac with a sharp tongue...
...but he had a strong sense of responsibility.
He did his best as leader to give us direction when we were lost.
vvmmm
vvmmm
vvmmm
Now we're going to put our lives on the line...
clench
I still can't believe someone so dependable is gone...
shake
shake
...to bring the truth behind your murder to light...!!
dingg!
Kiann
nnng

DANGANRONPA2

CHAPTER 2 [PART TWO]: THE CLASS TRIAL IS NOW IN SESSION

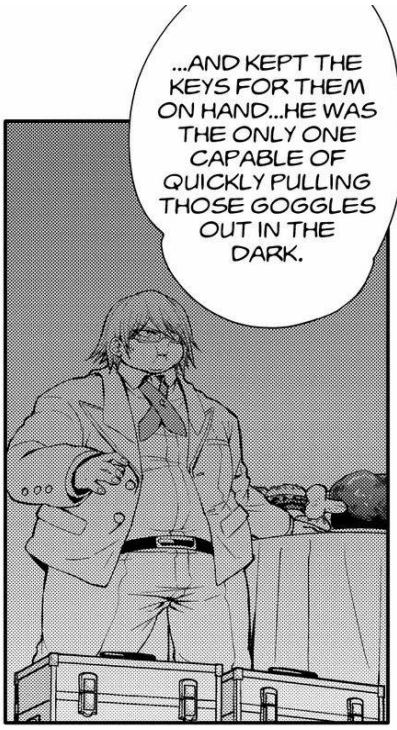
...IS NOW IN SESSION!
OKAY, BRIEF REVIEW ON HOW THE CLASS TRIAL WORKS!
Y'ALL GET TA BASH YER BRAINS OVER WHODUNNIT BEFORE PUTTIN' IT TA A VOTE!
...EVERYONE BUT THE KILLER GETS PUNISHED INSTEAD, AN' THE GUILTY ONE GETS TA LEAVE THE ISLAND!
CORRECTLY IDENTIFY THE CULPRIT, AND ONLY THEY GET PUNISHED. BUT IF YA PICK THE WRONG PERSON...
MY COURTROOM IS 100% FAIR, SO LET IT BE KNOWN..
おしおき
PUN-
ISH-
MENT

THE CLASS TRIAL...
KINDA NARROWS IT DOWN TA TH' PARTY-GOERS!
NO? DIN'T DAT DOUCHE TOOAM GET KNOCKED OFF IN DA DINING HALL?
BETTER FIGHT WITH CLAWS BEARED!
..ONE OF Y'ALL IS THE CULPRIT!
WHERE TO BEGIN?
EASIER SAID THAN DONE...

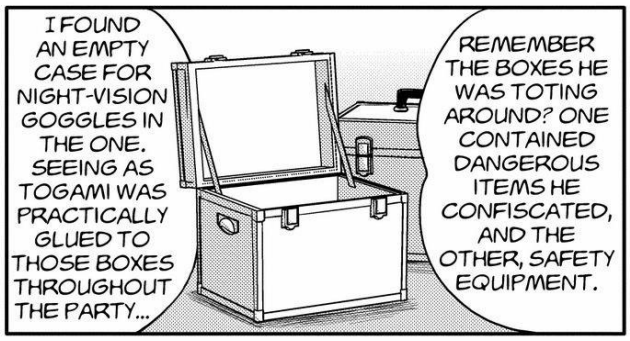
M-MAYBE... THE CULPRIT MOVED HIS BODY AFTER K-KILLING... TOGAMI?
I BET THE KILLER WAS TRYING TO BUY TIME BY HIDING IT!
ポキッ lean
THE LOCATION OF TOGAMI'S BODY...WHY DO YOU SUPPOSE WE FOUND HIM UNDER A TABLE OF ALL PLACES...?
OH, NICE TRY! YOU JUST WANNA ASSERT YOUR OWN INNO-CENCE!
N-NOW, NOW...
...I WAS THINKING... WHY DON'T WE START BY DISCUSSING THE MAIN THING THAT STOOD OUT TO ALL OF US...?
DESPITE ALL OF THE BLOOD, THERE WERE NO STREAKS THAT WOULD SUGGEST HIS BODY WAS DRAGGED.
TRY TO REMEMBER THE SURROUNDING AREA.
HUH ?
NO, I FIND IT HARD TO BELIEVE THE CULPRIT MOVED HIS BODY...
...IT'S SAFE TO ASSUME HE WENT UNDER THE TABLE OF HIS OWN VOLITION FOR SOME UNKNOWN REASON, ONLY TO MEET HIS UNTIMELY DEMISE.
...AND NO ONE HERE IS STRONG ENOUGH TO DRAG SUCH A ROBUST MAN UNDER THE TABLE AGAINST HIS WILL...
SEEING AS THERE WERE ALSO BLOOD-STAINS ON THE INSIDE OF THE TABLE-CLOTH...
T- THEN WHY DID WE FIND HIM DOWN THERE?

GOING BY THE KNIFE NEAR HIS BODY... DOESN'T IT SEEM LIKELY HE NOTICED THE KNIFE HIDDEN UNDER THE TABLE...
AND WENT DOWN THERE TO CONFISCATE IT?
WASN'T TOGAMI REALLY UPTIGHT ABOUT DANGEROUS ITEMS BEFORE THE PARTY?
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS WHY? HE DOVE FOR COVER 'CUZ THE LIGHTS WENT OUT!
THAT'S FER EARTH-QUAKES ...
HMM! WHILE THE SEVERITY OF TOGAMI'S PARANOIA WAS GRAVE ENOUGH THAT I WOULD NOT HESITATE TO ASCRIBE THAT GESTURE TO HIM...HOW CAME HE TO NOTICE THE KNIFE?
...IF ITS PRESENCE WAS MADE KNOWN TO HIM, WHY DID HE WAIT UNTIL THE WORLD FELL INTO DARKNESS ?
--NO, THAT ISN'T POSSIBLE.
WHAT IF HE DIDN'T NOTICE UNTIL THEN?
FOR EXAMPLE, MAYBE HE SAW SOMEONE TRY TO OBTAIN THE KNIFE STASHED UNDER--

UM... WAIT...THEN HOW COULD HAM HANDS SEE THE CULPRIT MAKE HIS MOVE DURING THE POWER OUTAGE?
?
I COULDN'T SEE THE FOOD IN FRONT OF MY NOSE...
...but I still finished eating it!
ah! はっ
THAT'D MAKE IT CRAZY DARK!
I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION TOGAMI WENT UNDER THE TABLE DURING THE POWER OUTAGE...
NO...
...I'M CONFIDENT HE WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD SEE.
...HOW?
MY POINT EXACTLY. TOGAMI WAS JUST AS BLIND AS ANY OTHER AMIDST THAT DARKNESS... DEBUNKING THIS THEORY.
Hey!
NOT SO FAST! WASN'T THE KILLER USING THOSE...?
THE KILLER HID THE GOGGLES BEFOREHAND, LIKE THE KNIFE, TO ENSURE THEY COULD COMMIT MURDER IN THE DARK!
...WITH NIGHT-VISION GOGGLES.
IF HE USED THE PAIR WE FOUND BY HIS BODY, HE'D HAVE NO PROBLEM MOVING IN THE DARK.


...AND KEPT THE KEYS FOR THEM ON HAND...HE WAS THE ONLY ONE CAPABLE OF QUICKLY PULLING THOSE GOGGLES OUT IN THE DARK.

NO, I'M POSITIVE TOGAMI BROUGHT THEM.


I FOUND AN EMPTY CASE FOR NIGHT-VISION GOGGLES IN THE ONE. SEEING AS TOGAMI WAS PRACTICALLY GLUED TO THOSE BOXES THROUGHOUT THE PARTY...
REMEMBER THE BOXES HE WAS TOTING AROUND? ONE CONTAINED DANGEROUS ITEMS HE CONFISCATED, AND THE OTHER, SAFETY EQUIPMENT.

TOGAMI KNEW THAT SOME-ONE...
...WAS PLOTTING TO COMMIT MURDER.

gasp!
HE WAS CLAIR-VOYANT ?!
groo
UM, NO.
This is a grave loss indeed ...!
I DIDN'T REALIZE HE TOO WIELDED THE MIGHTY POWER OF THE EVIL EYE...
stagger
gaaan

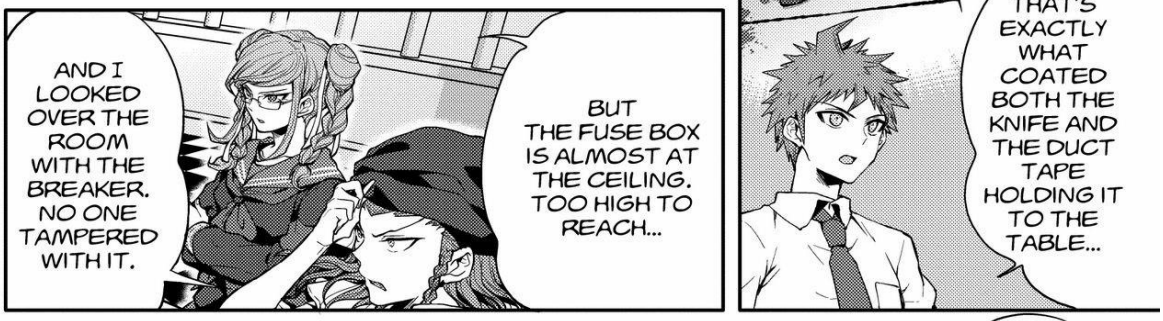
HOLD UP! THEN WHY ALL THAT SECURITY CRAP TOGAMI GAVE US...?
I-I SEE...

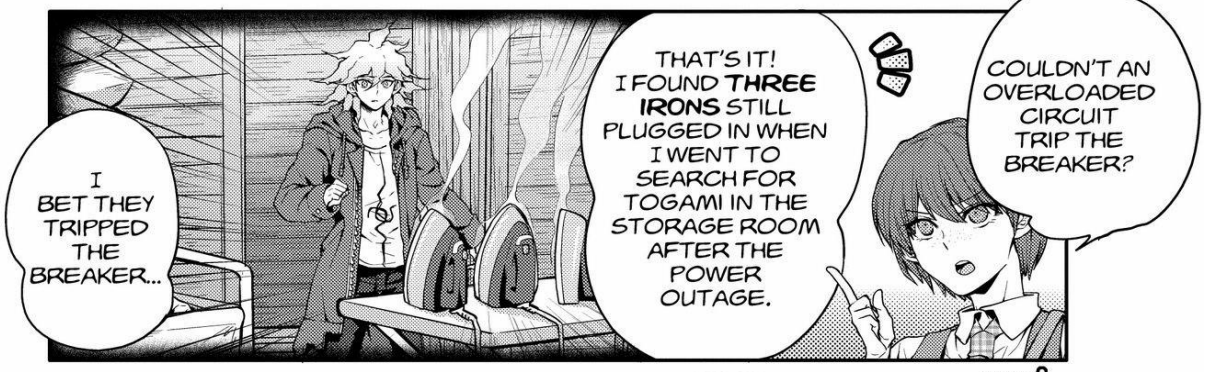
Man, I want my screw-driver back...
...I THOUGHT I WAS IN FOR A CAVITY SEARCH THE WAY THINGS WERE GOING...

I'M CORRECT, AREN'T I, HINATA...?
YEAH. DURING THE INVESTI-GATION...
I THINK IT MIGHT BE WISE TO CHECK OVER HIS ROOM, AND QUICKLY.
I DON'T MIND GOING WITH YOU...
But why'd you ask me?
GREAT!
TOGAMI'S COTTAGE ?
RIGHT. HAVEN'T YOU PRETTY MUCH INVESTI-GATED ALL YOU CAN HERE, ANYWAY ?
IT'S NOT LIKE I SUSPECT THE OTHERS...BUT GOING OUT ALONE MIGHT NOT BE THE SAFEST MOVE.
Plus...
I FIND YOU EASY TO TALK TO...YOU GIVE OFF A SIMILAR VIBE OF ADMIRATION FOR HOPE'S PEAK ACADEMY. IT MAKES ME FEEL LIKE WE'RE KINDRED SPIRITS...
Admiration...
How did he know...?
A-ANYWAY... WE MIGHT AS WELL GO SEE WHAT WE CAN FIND...
In the cottage, we discovered ...
BEWARE
THE FIRST MURDER HAPPENS TONIGHT
SOMEONE WILL DEFINITELY KILL SOMEONE
A THREAT ...?!
WHO WOULD WRITE SUCH A THING ...?!

YOU'RE MAKING THEM KILL EACH OTHER, AND YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT A PTA MEETING?!
I'VE GOTTA PLAY IT BY THE BOOK NOWADAYS OR YER PARENTS WILL GIVE ME HELL! I TELL YA...IT AIN'T LIKE THE OLD DAYS!
DON'T EXPECT ANY FAVORITISM FROM THIS HEADMASTER!
YER BARKIN' UP THE WRONG HONEY TREE! I GAVE THE SAME MOTIVE ACROSS THE BOARD!
Point!
MONOKUMA!
D'UH! OBVIOUSLY, IT WAS THE JERKWAD WHO WANTED THE KILLING FEST TO BEGIN!
IT WASN'T ME...!
UM, NOT TO BE RUDE...
I BET THE WHOLE REASON WHY HE SUDDENLY DECIDED TO THROW THIS PARTY...
...WAS TO RESTRICT WHAT THE CULPRIT COULD DO BY KEEPING EVERYONE IN ONE PLACE.
REGARDLESS WHO WROTE IT, THAT THREAT OBVIOUSLY PUT TOGAMI ON EDGE...
PLANTING IT BEFOREHAND WOULDN'T WORK...NOT WHEN IT WAS TOO DARK TO EVEN SEE IT...
うーん
うーん
うーん
GOOD QUESTION... HOW DID THEY KNOW WHERE THE KNIFE WAS...?
...HOW PRECISELY DID THE KILLER OVERCOME THE DARKNESS?
...BUT I WISH TO TOUCH BACK ON THE NIGHT-VISION GOGGLES. ASSUMING THEY BELONGED TO TOGAMI...
THAT WOULD ALLOW THE CULPRIT TO FIND AND NAB THE KNIFE NO MATTER HOW DARK IT WAS.
NOT IF THEY USED LUMINESCENT PAINT!

IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE, THE POWER OUTAGE WAS NO ACCIDENT! IT WAS ARRANGED!
When you go see a killer concert.
LIKE GLOWSTICKS, RIGHT. I GET IT.


AND I LOOKED OVER THE ROOM WITH THE BREAKER. NO ONE TAMPERED WITH IT.
BUT THE FUSE BOX IS ALMOST AT THE CEILING. TOO HIGH TO REACH...
AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT COATED BOTH THE KNIFE AND THE DUCT TAPE HOLDING IT TO THE TABLE...


I BET THEY TRIPPED THE BREAKER...
THAT'S IT! I FOUND THREE IRONS STILL PLUGGED IN WHEN I WENT TO SEARCH FOR TOGAMI IN THE STORAGE ROOM AFTER THE POWER OUTAGE.
COULDN'T AN OVERLOADED CIRCUIT TRIP THE BREAKER?

I AGREE. THERE WASN'T NEARLY ENOUGH TIME TO ACCOMPLISH ALL OF THAT IN THE DARK.
THE DIRECT CAUSE OF THE POWER OUTAGE WASN'T THE IRONS...BUT THE A/C.
...SOMEONE SLIPPED OUT OF THE PARTY...
sneak
yay!
YOU SERIOUSLY THINK...
yay!
Klick X3
200m!
dark
...CAME BACK DURING THE BLACKOUT... AND SHANKED HAM HANDS?
There's just no way!
stab!
WENT TO THE STORAGE ROOM... PLUGGED IN THREE IRONS...

RIGHT AROUND TOGAMI'S TIME OF DEATH!
WASN'T 11:30...?
THIS WAY THE CULPRIT COULD CREATE A POWER OUTAGE AT A SET TIME WITHOUT LIFTING A FINGER... LEAVING THEM FREE TO COMMIT MURDER.
30℃
PM 11:30
START
THE TIMERS ON THE TWO AIR CONDITIONER UNITS--ONE IN THE DINING HALL AND ONE IN THE OFFICE--WERE BOTH SET TO TURN ON AT 11:30.
IT'S OKAY, THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY.
YOU SAID IT... THIS IS ONE SLY DEVIL...I'M GETTING WORRIED WE'LL NEVER CATCH THE LOUSE.
CRAZY ELABORATE! METICULOUS, EVEN.
はぁ... sigh
I MEAN, ISN'T THIS JUST A LOWLY KILLER...? SCUM LIKE THAT DOESN'T STAND A CHANCE...
...BEFORE THE STUDENTS RENOWNED AS THE "SYMBOLS OF HOPE"!
K-KO-MAEDA...? WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU...?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
IT'S JUST, HAVEN'T YOU INSISTED THIS WHOLE TIME...
...THAT NONE OF US COULD POSSIBLY BE THE KILLER...?
A SIMPLE CASE LIKE THIS IS NOTHING MORE THAN A STEPPING STONE FOR YOU.
THERE IS NO WAY YOU COULD POSSIBLY LOSE HERE.
HOPE WILL ALWAYS PREVAIL IN THE END! I AM ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN OF IT!
...Huh?

One... two...
ANY OF US COULD SET THE A/C TIMERS, AND WE'D JUST NEED TO SNEAK THE IRONS INTO THE STORAGE ROOM BEFORE TOGAMI ARRIVED...
WE MANAGED TO UNRAVEL THE TRICK TO THE POWER OUTAGE, BUT THE PROBLEM IS WHO DID IT...
...? I DID? ANYWAY, LET'S CONTINUE DIS-CUSSING THE CASE.
DOESN'T THIS MAKE ALL OF US SUSPECTS ...?
...GOSH... THIS DOESN'T BODE WELL!
BUT THAT'S TO BE EXPECTED! NONE OF US COULD POSSIBLY BE THE KILLER.
WE HAVEN'T FOUND A SINGLE CLUE THAT TRACES BACK TO THE KILLER AFTER ALL THIS DEBATING ...
SO... WHAT'S YER POINT?
BLUNTLY PUT, HE'S SAYING WE HAVEN'T MADE ANY PROGRESS AT ALL.
YOU KEEP CONTRA-DICTING YOURSELF!
HEY... YOU'RE BEING IRRATIONAL!

...DOUBT"?
...“I'D RATHER DIE TRUSTING EVERYONE THAN SURVIVE CASTING SHADOWS OF...
I MEAN, LET'S BE REAL... HAVEN'T WE ALL SAID TO OUR-SELVES...
AT ANY RATE, I HAVE A SUGGESTION TO SHARE WITH EVERYONE ON HOW TO GO FORWARD.
AREN'T WE CLASS-MATES...? WE WOULD NEVER KILL A FELLOW CLASS-MATE.
YOU'RE THE ONES BEING IRRA-TIONAL!
D-DON'T BE STUPID! WHY DO YOU THINK WE'VE SPENT ALL THIS TIME DIS--
A ARE YOU TELLING US TO G-GIVE UP AND D-DIEEE?!
clench!
bam!
THEN WHY IS TOGAMI DEAD ...?!
AREN'T YOU SICK OF THIS TOO? SO LET'S CALL IT QUITS... AFTER ALL, IT'S NOT LIKE WE HAVE ANY CLUES THAT LEAD--
lurch
I'VE HAD ALL I CAN TAKE! I'M SICK OF SEEING FRIENDS DENOUNCE FRIENDS!
WHO CARES WHY IT HAPPENED?!

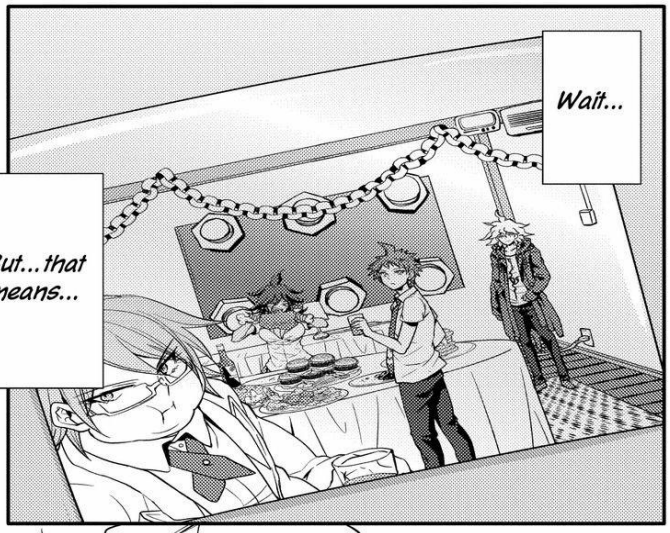
Nanami ...?
WE ALREADY FOUND ONE THAT LEADS TO THE CULPRIT.
YES, WE DO...!!
WHAT PRECISELY IS THIS SUPPOSED... CLUE?
REALLY...? THEN WOULD YOU CARE TO SHARE IT WITH US?
COULD I SEE A PHOTO THAT INCLUDES THE TABLE IN QUESTION?
KOIZUMI... DIDN'T YOU TAKE PHOTOS OF US RIGHT BEFORE THE LIGHTS WENT OUT?
S-SURE.
IN ORDER FOR THE CULPRIT TO REACH THE TABLE IN THE DARK...
Slap!
!!
...THEY HAD TO USE THIS LAMP!
HOW DO YOU SUPPOSE THE CULPRIT MANAGED TO GRAB THAT KNIFE TO BEGIN WITH ...?
THEY NEEDED TO GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO THE TABLE MARKED WITH LUMINESCENT PAINT FOR THE MURDER TO EVER TAKE PLACE!

THE CULPRIT DIDN'T NEED THE POWER GOING THROUGH THE CORD...
...JUST THE POWER CORD ITSELF.

D- DON'T YOU KNOW NO POWER MEANS NO LIGHT...?
THAT'S THE DUMBEST IDEA EVER...
YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG ...

THE C-CORD?
RIGHT. IF THE KILLER SIMPLY FOLLOWED THE CORD IN THE DARK, IT WOULD LEAD THEM TO THE TABLE.

THE ONLY PERSON IN A POSITION TO DO THAT AT THE TIME WAS...


Wait...
But...that means...

...KOMAEDA...

ARE...
...YOU THE CULPRIT ...?

DANGAN RONPA 2 GOODBYE DESPAIR

CHAPTER 3: KOMAEDA AWAKENS

Oppor-tunity ...?
THE PRIME OPPORTUNITY TO PLANT THAT KNIFE UNDER THE TABLE...?
gasp!
BUT DIDN'T YOU ALSO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY ?
...I JUST HAPPENED TO BE STANDING THERE!
NO ONE ELSE WOULD HAVE BEEN READY TO FOLLOW THAT CORD TO THE TABLE...AND KNIFE!
I'M SURE YOU HAD PLENTY OF TIME TO STASH THAT KNIFE...
KOMAEDA... FROM MORNING ON, DIDN'T YOU SPEND THE WHOLE DAY CLEANING THE DINING HALL...?
GUYS... I'M PRETTY SURE IT WAS KOMAEDA WHO RECOMMENDED THE OLD BUILDING, AND WHO HAD US DRAW FOR CLEANING DUTY...
T-THEY WERE COINCI-DENCES !
NOT ONLY IS THERE THE ISSUE WITH THE POWER CORD, BUT ALSO CLEANING DUTY... DOESN'T IT SEEM UNLIKELY THEY WERE MERE "COINCIDENCES" ...
...WHEN YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE CAPABLE OF BOTH?

SO YOU FIXED THE DRAWING SOMEHOW.
SO YOU COULD ARRANGE TO PLANT THE MURDER WEAPON.
I...!
...KOMAEDA EVEN PROVIDED THE CHOPSTICKS WE USED FOR THE DRAW...
AM I CORRECT IN THINKING YOU INTENTIONALLY GOT CLEANING DUTY TO HIDE THAT KNIFE ...?
YOU WAS TRYIN' TA TRICK US...SO YA COULD BEAT DA RAP!
ARE YOU GUILTY OR NOT? SPIT IT OUT!
I... I...!
IF IT WAS YOU...THAT STRANGE SPEECH EARLIER WAS PART OF A PLOY TO DERAIL US...
I'M NOT SURE THIS IS ENOUGH TO SAY YOU WERE THE MURDERER... BUT AT THE VERY LEAST, IT'S GROUNDS FOR SUSPICION, DON'T YOU THINK?
TO BE PERFECTLY HONEST, I DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE IT WAS YOU...
COME ON, KOMAEDA, PLEASE...IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY IN YOUR DEFENSE, PLEASE TELL US...
AH... AAAHHH ...!

...I don't want to think you're Togami's killer...!
After how we conducted the investigation together...and the way you were always so kind...
KOMAEDA! WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SAY...?!
AAAAAAAAHHHH
krakksnapp

あはっ
AHA!
あはははははははは
AHA! HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!
ギーッ

AHHH...! HOW WONDERFULLY BEAUTIFUL!
bam!
...ALL OF YOU ULTIMATES ARE WORKING TOGETHER...
...TO STAND UP AND FACE THE DESPAIR OF A FRIEND'S DEATH...
Komaeda...?
AHA...! HA...!
I'D EXPECT NO LESS FROM YOU ULTIMATES...
...INDEED... YOU ARE CORRECT... I WAS BEHIND IT ALL...
IT WAS NONE OTHER THAN I WHO TAPED THE KNIFE UNDER THE TABLE BEFORE THE PARTY.
AND WHEN WE WERE THROWN INTO DARKNESS, IT WAS I WHO FOLLOWED THE CORD BACK TO THAT VERY TABLE!
NEEDLESS TO SAY, I RIGGED THE POWER OUTAGE AS WELL.
smirk
...I COULDN'T VERY WELL GRAB THE KNIFE FOR ALL EYES TO SEE, NOW COULD I...?

THIS GUY'S QUACK-A-DOODLE-DOO CRAZY! IT'S LIKE HE'S A TOTALLY DIFFERENT PERSON!
glomp!
YOU COULD SAY THAT UNANTICIPATED TWIST IS PRECISELY...
...WHAT TURNED THIS CASE INTO SUCH AN INTERESTING MYSTERY!
ah ha!
I HAVE TO HAND IT TO TOGAMI! HE TRULY WAS WORTHY OF HIS TITLE AS AN ULTIMATE!
ALAS, I DIDN'T EXPECT TOGAMI TO BRING THOSE NIGHT-VISION GOGGLES...
...BECAUSE OF THEM, TOGAMI AND I GOT INTO A SCUFFLE UNDER THE TABLE THAT CAME TO AN UNFORTUNATE END...
G-GIVE IT A REST...! SERIOUSLY, WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU...?!
shudder
...IS THIS THE REAL YOU? WERE YOU DECEIVING US THIS WHOLE TIME?
PERISH THE THOUGHT!
A PIECE OF TRASH LIKE ME COULDN'T POSSIBLY DECEIVE ALL OF YOU...!
I'M MORE ACUTELY AWARE THAN ANYONE THAT I'M AN INSIGNIFICANT HUMAN BEING...

THE GUY'S PSYCHO! AS IN KILLING THE NEIGHBORHOOD PETS AS A KID PSYCHOOO!
cling!
aieee!!
OR THE TYPE WHO'D WATCH FRIDAY THE 13TH WITH STARS IN HIS EYES... JUST LIKE ME!
eh?!
tremble
IT'S OUTRIGHT PRESUMPTUOUS TO HARBOR HOPES AND DREAMS...
...AND IMPUDENT TO STRIVE TOWARD SOMETHING...
...WHEN ONE IS AN IRREDEEMABLY TERRIBLE, HORRIBLE, FOOLISH, AND INFERIOR SCUMBAG INCAPABLE OF DOING ANYTHING!!!
KOMAEDA... IF THIS WAS ALL YOUR DOING, WERE YOU ALSO BEHIND THE THREATENING LETTER...?
OF COURSE!
NOBODY BESIDES ME HAS SUCH PAINFULLY BAD PENMANSHIP...!
WHAT POSSESSED YOU TO SEND THAT...?!
clench
"WHAT POSSESSED ME"...?
WELL...
...I'M SURE SOMEWHERE IN MY HEART, THERE WAS THE DESIRE FOR SOMEONE TO STOP ME...

I'M SURE YOU KNEW HOW TOGAMI WOULD RESPOND IF YOU THREATENED HIM...
...AND NOT JUST TOGAMI...THE SAME COULD BE SAID FOR THE DRAWING AND CLEANING DUTY.
ISN'T THAT HOW YOU LURED US ONTO THE STAGE FOR THIS MURDER?
Heh heh...!
IF I FED YOU SOMETHING ALONG THOSE LINES, WOULD YOU GUYS VIEW ME IN A SLIGHTLY MORE SYMPATHETIC LIGHT?
scumbag...
...KO-MA-EDA !!
YOU'RE UNBE-LIEVABLE ...!
I DIDN'T CHEAT WHEN I DREW THIS.
THE CHOP-STICK USED TO DETER-MINE CLEAN-ING DUTY.
THIS.
flip
EH ...?
shuffle...
BINGO. HOWEVER, YOU SEEM TO BE MISTAKEN ON ONE ACCOUNT ...
He's the Ultimate Lucky Student ...!
gasp!
WAIT... DOES THAT MEAN YOU...?!
OH, SILLY ME...OF COURSE YOU WOULDN'T REMEMBER THE INSIGNIFICANT TALENT A LOSER SUCH AS MYSELF POSSESSES...
twirl
twirl
T-THEN HOW DID YOU GET CLEANING DUTY SO CONVENIENTLY ...?!

HUH ...?
WEREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE THE ULTIMATE LUCKY STUDENT ...?
DID ALL YOUR BAD KARMA BITE YOU IN THE BUTT?
YOU GUYS SAID IT WAS BAD LUCK...
...BUT I DREW THIS CHOPSTICK PRECISELY BECAUSE... I AM THE ULTIMATE LUCKY STUDENT.
PRECISELY. I RELIED ENTIRELY ON MY OWN LUCK...
I WAS CONFI-DENT WITH THAT ON MY SIDE, CLEANING DUTY WAS AS GOOD AS MINE.
S-SO YOU JUST LEFT IT ALL TO LUCK?!
HA, HA! THIS ISN'T "JUST" LUCK, ALTHOUGH I'LL ADMIT IT IS A WORTHLESS TALENT.
I-I'VE HEARD ENOUGH... I DON'T CARE... ABOUT THAT ANY-MORE...
squeeze...
...JUST ANSWER THIS ONE QUESTION! WHY DID YOU KILL TOGAMI ?!
...BUT THAT IS PRECISELY WHAT MAKES HIS DEATH WORTHY TO SERVE AS A STEPPING STONE...FOR ENHANCING YOUR RADIANCE AS THE "SYMBOLS OF HOPE"!!
tremble
tremble
hahh
tremble
I DID IT ALL TO MAKE YOU SHINE BRIGHTER !
...I FIND THE LOSS OF SUCH A MAN AGONIZING TO ME... THE VERY THOUGHT HE WAS MURDERED SENDS ME PLUMMET-ING INTO DESPAIR...
HE REALLY WAS A GREAT LEADER OF EXCEPTIONAL MERIT...

PLEASE, MONOKUMA BABY!!
HEY, ENOUGH ALREADY! IT'S PAST TIME WE STARTED VOTIN'! I'M GONNA PUT DAT FREAK SIX FEET UNDER!
KEEP THAT SHIT IN THE TOILET WHERE IT BELONGS !
OF ALL THE EFFRON-TERY ...!
Is this the same Komaeda I knew who treated everyone with such kind consider-ation...?
Is this really Komaeda ...?
U pu pu...
Ya don't know squat about each other...
...That's why I didn't notice his true nature...
...until after he killed...
...I only tricked myself into thinking I knew him. In reality, I didn't know a damn thing about him.
...gasp
That's right... I'm in no position to say I "knew" Komaeda...

silence
はっ gasp
UH... WELL, UH, UM... A-ARE YOU CERTAIN K-KOMAEDA IS THE CULPRIT...?
N-NOT SO FAAASSST !!
...BUT... UM...AS A MEMBER OF THE MEDICAL FIELD, I-I TOOK THE LIBERTY TO C-CONDUCT AN... AUTOPSY... ON TOGAMI...
SHUT IT, SKANKY BITCH! IT'S SO FREAKING OBVIOUS HE'S GUILTY! IT MAKES ME SICK EVERY TIME YOU OPEN YOUR MOUTH, SO DON'T BUTT IN AGAIN!
I...I'M SORRY...
slump
Skanky bi...?
What the hell?!
あぶ!?
HUH?! DIDN'T YOU JUST HEAR THE GUY CONFESS...?
... "AS THE KNIFE MAY NOT BE THE MURDER WEAPON, WE CAN'T BE SURE KOMAEDA IS THE CULPRIT."
INTER-ESTING... IN OTHER WORDS, YOU MEAN TO SAY...
...HE WAS S-STABBED BY A CYLINDRICAL OBJECT WITH A DIAMETER APPROXI-MATELY 5 MM WIIIDE ...!
slap!
...THE F-FATAL INJURIES ACROSS HIS B-BODY WEREN'T MADE BY THE KNIFE YOU KEEP M-MEN-TIONING !
bzzzzzzt!
sniffle... Y-YES, THAT'S RIGHT...
DOES THAT SOUND ABOUT RIGHT, TSUMIKI ?
HEY, YOU BETTER BE SURE ABOUT DAT!!
WHAAAT?! BUT 5 MM IS LIKE A TOOTHPICK COMPARED TO THE KNIFE!

...BY ANY CHANCE, IS THERE SOME-THING ELSE YOU'RE KEEPING FROM US...?
HEY, KOMAEDA...
HA, HA! SHE'S THE ONE WHO SAID IT, NOT ME.
sniff...
WH-WHO ARE YOU TRYING TO FOOL...?! LIKE THE CULPRIT COULD BE ANYONE ELSE!
...GUESS.
FOR EXAMPLE, DID SOMETHING HAPPEN BETWEEN YOU AND TOGAMI DURING THE POWER OUTAGE THAT WE STILL DON'T KNOW ABOUT... MAYBE?
HEH, HEH! GO ON! I DARE YOU...USE THE LIGHT OF YOUR HOPE TO EXPOSE THAT TRUTH LOST IN THE DARKNESS ...!
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU WERE SINGING LIKE A CANARY ONLY TO CLAM UP THE SECOND THE TIDE TURNS AGAINST YOU!
spill it! 吐けよー!!
WHAT HAVE YOU KEPT FROM US AFTER ALL THIS TIME...?
AMIDST THE DARKNESS, ALL ARE RENDERED BLIND...NO MATTER HOW YOU PONDER, THE TRUTH REMAINS LOST IN THE DARKNESS. POETIC, DON'T YOU THINK?
GEE, WHAT COULD HAVE HAP-PENED ?
Damn it...! What should I do...? If I don't figure something out, we're all goners ...!!
WHAT A JERK...!

...ISN'T LOST IN THE DARK-NESS !!
パッ
fwoosh!
THE TRUTH...
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF I COULDN'T SEE DURING THE POWER OUTAGE...
...THESE EARS OF MINE CAUGHT EVERY WORD, WAY CRISP, LOUD, AND CLEAR!!
そわ...
murmur
Mioda ...?
Of course... With her ears ...!
HONING IN ON THE VOICES DURING THE POWER OUTAGE...THE VERY FIRST TO CRY OUT WAS MAHIRU.
Hey! The power's out!
FOLLOWED BY KAZUICHI...
I can't see a thing!
Waaah! Don't step on my foot!
...AND THEN HIYOKO.

...TERUTERU...
Guys, where are you? Oh, crap, so it's not just the kitchen that blacked out...
...NAGITO...
Ow!
Hey! What are you doing? Stop that!
...BYAKUYA...
G-Gimme a sec! I'll follow the wall to the fuse box and see what I can do...!
...SONIA...
Do you suppose something tripped the breaker?
...AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST, KAZUICHI PIPED IN AGAIN!
I-I'M NOT SURE ANY OF THIS WILL ACTUALLY HELP US OUT...
IT'S IMPRESSIVE YOU COULD TELL ALL OF OUR VOICES APART!
AHA! NO WONDER YOU'RE THE ULTIMATE MUSICIAN!
THERE'S YOUR TRUTH "LOST" IN THE DARKNESS !!
bam!
パチ clap パチ clap
spin
くるくる
freaky
見れねーっす
look!
can't

come clean
WELL, THAT IS WHAT ACTUALLY HAP-PENED.
...
NO, NOW THAT THE TRAIL IS GOING COLD, THIS INFORMATION COULD PROVE INVALUABLE.
WHAT ?!
OUT OF RESPECT FOR MIODA'S INCREDIBLE TALENT, I'D LIKE TO MAKE A SMALL CONFES-SION.
BUT IF YOU THINK ABOUT THEIR EXCHANGE DURING THE OUTAGE...
...DOESN'T IT SOUND JUST LIKE TOGAMI MANAGED TO REPEL KOMAEDA ...?
GUYS, EARLIER KOMAEDA CLAIMED HE GOT INTO A SCUFFLE WITH TOGAMI, WHO WAS WEARING THE NIGHT-VISION GOGGLES... AND KILLED HIM IN THE HEAT OF THE MOMENT.
SO YOU SEE... I WASN'T ABLE TO SO MUCH AS TOUCH THE KNIFE BACK THERE.
What...?
TOGAMI... SHOVED YOU...?
TRUTH BE TOLD, TOGAMI SHOVED ME RIGHT OUT FROM UNDER THE TABLE.
Slam!
...BUT TOGAMI SPOTTED ME AT ONCE WITH THOSE NIGHT-VISION GOGGLES. BEFORE I KNEW IT, HE SENT ME FLYING OUT FROM UNDER THE TABLE.
INDEED, HE DID... I IMMEDIATELY SNUCK UNDER THE TABLE TO GET THE HIDDEN KNIFE AS SOON AS THE POWER SHUT OFF...
YOU SEE, I LOST SIGHT OF THE LUMINESCENT PAINT USED TO MARK THE KNIFE, AND HAD NO IDEA WHERE THE POWER CORD WAS...
AFTER HE PUSHED ME OUT, I FELL INTO THE SAME CONFUSED PANIC AS THE REST OF YOU.

H-HOLD UP!
DO YOU MEAN TO SAY YOU AREN'T THE KILLER...?!
...BEFORE LONG, THE LIGHTS FLIPPED ON TO REVEAL TOGAMI'S DEAD BODY UNDER THE TABLE...
IT'S TRUE I PLANNED EVERY-THING...
...FROM HOLDING THE PARTY... TO PLANTING THE KNIFE... CLEAR DOWN TO RIGGING THE POWER OUTAGE...
slip
drop
clatter
clatter
UNFORTU-NATELY, MY PLANS ENDED IN FAILURE...
...DUE TO TOGAMI RISING TO THE OCCASION IN THOSE NIGHT-VISION GOGGLES.
NOT EVEN I KNOW WHAT TRANSPIRED AFTER THAT.
Y-YA FAILED...? MEANIN'... YOU DIDN'T DO TOGAMI IN?
Not again...!
IT WAS MEANINGLESS... NO OTHER WORD COULD INCITE THIS MUCH DESPAIR...
...!
We're back to square one...!!
WAS ALL THIS DEBATING A WASTE OF TIME?!
...BUT YOU CAN'T GIVE UP! YOU MUST CLING TO HOPE AS YOU STRIVE TO PUSH FORWARD!
hahh
hahh
YOUR ABILITY TO STAND BACK UP TIME AND AGAIN IS PRECISELY WHAT MAKES YOU SHINE BEAUTIFULLY AS THE "SYMBOLS OF HOPE"!
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME...!

EXACTLY. A DIFFERENT MURDER WEAPON DOES NOT FREE YOU OF SUSPICION, KOMAEDA...
I-I MEAN...YOU COULD BE TAKING US FOR A RIDE WITH THAT WHOLE STORY ABOUT GETTING PUSHED...
...
Y-YOU BE QUIET! WE'LL BE THE JUDGE OF THAT!
NOW THAT YOU KNOW THE KNIFE WASN'T THE MURDER WEAPON, YOU CAN'T MAKE A SOLID CASE AGAINST ME, CAN YOU?
SO TELL ME... WHAT WILL YOU DO NEXT?
I MEAN, SURE, IT'S PROBABLY ABOUT THE RIGHT WIDTH, BUT STILL...
WHAT?! W-WHERE DID THAT COME FROM...?!
COME TO THINK OF IT, I REMEMBER YOU LEFT THE DINING HALL ALL BY YOURSELF DURING THE POWER OUTAGE...!
あー aaah!
Talk about fishy!
H-HEY, WASN'T IT SUPPOSED TO BE A CYLINDRICAL OBJECT 5 MM IN DIAMETER...?
BY ANY CHANCE, DO YOU THINK IT WAS THE SCREWDRIVER SODA KEPT ON HAND...?
bam!
WHOA, WHOA, WHOA! STOP RIGHT THERE! I WAS TRYING TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE POWER OUTAGE--
--BUT IT TOOK A BEAR TA GET THE JOB DONE!
Upu pu pu!
SO MUCH FOR RESTORING POWER, SODA!
I BET YOU SNUCK OUT TO HIDE THE INCRIMINATING SCREWDRIVER SOMEWHERE!
Whaaat?!
I-IN YOUR DREAMS...!
DON'T TWIST MY GOOD INTENTIONS...!

...I-I TOLD YOU! JEEZ, LIKE I'D USE MY BELOVED SCREWDRIVER TO COMMIT MURDER!
IN WHICH CASE, IT SHOULD BE SAFE TO SAY THE SCREWDRIVER WASN'T THE MURDER WEAPON...
WAIT, I DON'T THINK SODA'S CAPABLE OF MURDER...
...OR AT LEAST, HIS SCREWDRIVER WAS STILL IN THE CASE OF DANGEROUS ITEMS TOGAMI CONFIS-CATED.
THERE WAS NO INDICATION ANYONE OPENED IT BEFORE I CHECKED THE CASE...
...SINCE I FOUND THE KEY IN ONE OF BYAKUYA'S POCKETS WHILE INVESTIGATING HIS BODY.
SODA
I WAS MAKING A VALIANT EFFORT TO REACH THE OFFICE AND JUST DIDN'T GET THERE!
OKAY, THEN OUR PRIME SUSPECT IS STILL KOMAEDA!
lame!
A-ACTUALLY...THE M-MURDER WEAPON ISN'T THE ONLY R-REASON WHY I DON'T BELIEVE KOMAEDA IS THE CULPRIT...
Eh?
NO ONE HAS EVER COMPLIMENTED HOW I LOOK BEFORE! NOT EVEN MY OWN MOTHER!
...HAVEN'T WE P-PROCEEDED... UNDER THE PREMISE THAT THE CULPRIT M-MURDERED TOGAMI UNDER THE TABLE?
gasp!
I-I WASN'T REFERRING TO YOUR P-PHYSICAL FEATURES...
I THINK KOMAEDA LOOKS AWFULLY N-NICE FOR THAT.

N-NORMALLY BLOOD WOULD GET ALL OVER HIM...
plip
plip
I-I MEAN, DIDN'T THE BLOOD S-SPLATTER EVERYWHERE UNDER THE TABLE...?
Y-YES!
I GET IT...YOU'RE REFERRING TO HOW KOMAEDA DOESN'T HAVE ANY BLOOD ON HIM, AREN'T YOU?
LIKE SHE SAID! DAT CLINCHES IT! KOMAEDA USED DA TABLECLOTH AN' KEPT DA BLOOD OFFA'IM!
whirl
TALKING ABOUT BLOOD REMINDS ME... A TABLECLOTH IN THE STORAGE ROOM WAS COVERED IN BLOODSTAINS...
I BET YOU JUST USED SOMETHING TO BLOCK IT...
HOW STRANGE! I DON'T SEE ANY BLOOD ON ME, DO YOU?
...HONESTLY, TRYING TO GET THE KNIFE DURING THE POWER OUTAGE WAS HARD ENOUGH ON ITS OWN...
...SLIPPING UNDER THE TABLE, COVERING UP IN A TABLECLOTH, AND STABBING SOMEONE...
...IT ALL OBVIOUSLY EXCEEDS THE CAPABILITIES OF A LOW-LEVEL HUMAN LIKE ME. AND I DOUBT ANY OF YOU COULD PULL IT OFF EITHER.
Yoink
IT WAS BULKY ENOUGH, HE COULDN'T EXACTLY SNEAK IT OUT IN HIS CLOTHES...
HE DUMPED IT AFTER THE LIGHTS CAME BACK? WHAT WAS HIS GAME PLAN IF SOMEONE NOTICED ...?
G-GIVE IT A REST! WHAT DO YOU HAVE AGAINST ME...?!
OF COURSE, SODA WOULD HAVE HAD PLENTY OF TIME TO HIDE IT WHEN HE LEFT THE DINING HALL.

...
...PERHAPS THE CULPRIT DIDN'T STAB TOGAMI FROM UNDER THE TABLE.
BUT DIDN'T WE ALREADY ESTABLISH THAT AS THE MURDER SCENE...?
YEAH...BUT THAT DOESN'T NECESSARILY MEAN TOGAMI WAS IN THE EXACT SAME LOCATION AS THE CULPRIT.
THE CULPRIT WAS UNDER THE TABLE, BUT NOT IMMEDIATELY UNDER IT...
...THAT IS THE ONLY POSSIBILITY, I THINK.
A-ANY IDEA WHAT SHE MEANS ...?
WHAT'S UNDER THE TABLE? JUST THE FLOOR...
Just the floor ...?
...THAT'S IT!
THE CULPRIT WAS UNDER THE FLOOR! IN A CRAWL-SPACE...
THE FLOOR IN THAT OLD BUILDING WAS FULL OF GAPING CRACKS...
...AND THE RUG DIDN'T EXTEND TO THAT TABLE, REMEMBER?
THE MURDER WEAPON HAD A 5 MM DIA-METER...
FLOORBOARDS
...IF IT WAS LONG ENOUGH, THE CULPRIT COULD HAVE STABBED TOGAMI THROUGH THE CRACKS AND NEVER SHOWN THEMSELVES!

IT NEVER OCCURRED TO ME THAT THE CULPRIT ATTACKED FROM UNDER THE FLOOR-BOARDS...
...SO I WASN'T ABLE TO CONDUCT AN ADEQUATE INVESTIGA-TION.
I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING LIKE THAT WHEN I CHECKED THE PLACE...

GOING BY THAT LOGIC, THE CULPRIT HAD TO ENTER THE CRAWLSPACE UNDER THE OLD BUILDING.
WHERE DID THEY GET IN? HOW?

HE'S REFERRING TO AN AXIS PANEL... ISN'T HE?
ACCESS PANEL, YER HIGH-NESS.

HEH HEH HEH ...!

TANAKA ...?
Heh, heh ...!

Heh ...!
I'M IN THE SAME BOAT...

grasp!
BWAA HA HA HA!!

IT WOULD SEEM YOUR CLOUDED GLASS EYES... CANNOT PERCEIVE THE TRUTH!
W-what's gotten into him?!
fling!
T-TANAKA...? WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT ...?
YOU SEEK ENLIGHT-ENMENT ...?
hmph ...!
G-GIMME A BREAK... NOT ANOTHER FREAK ON THE STAND...
eeeek!
HMPH! BUT SUCH IS TO BE EXPECTED OF MERE MORTALS LACKING HIGHER POWERS...
heh heh heh...
SO BE IT!
baaah!
ba-
I AM WILLING TO HUMOR YOU ALL HERE AND NOW...WITH A RECOUNTING OF THIS TRUE STORY ...!!

CHAPTER 4: UNDERCOVER WORK FOR THE FOUR DARK DEVAS OF DESTRUCTION?!

CHAM-P !!

skritch

scratch

MAGA-Z!!

JUM-P!!

SAN-D !!

FOUR DARK DEVAS OF DESTRUC-TION... HEED MY CALL!

thoom!

BEYOND EVEN THE THIRD EYE OF SPIRITUAL INSIGHT...THERE IS A *FOURTH* THAT GAZES INTO THE OCCULT...*FORMED BY THE SINISTER COMBINATION OF THESE WHOM YOU NOW BEHOLD!*

swish

fling!

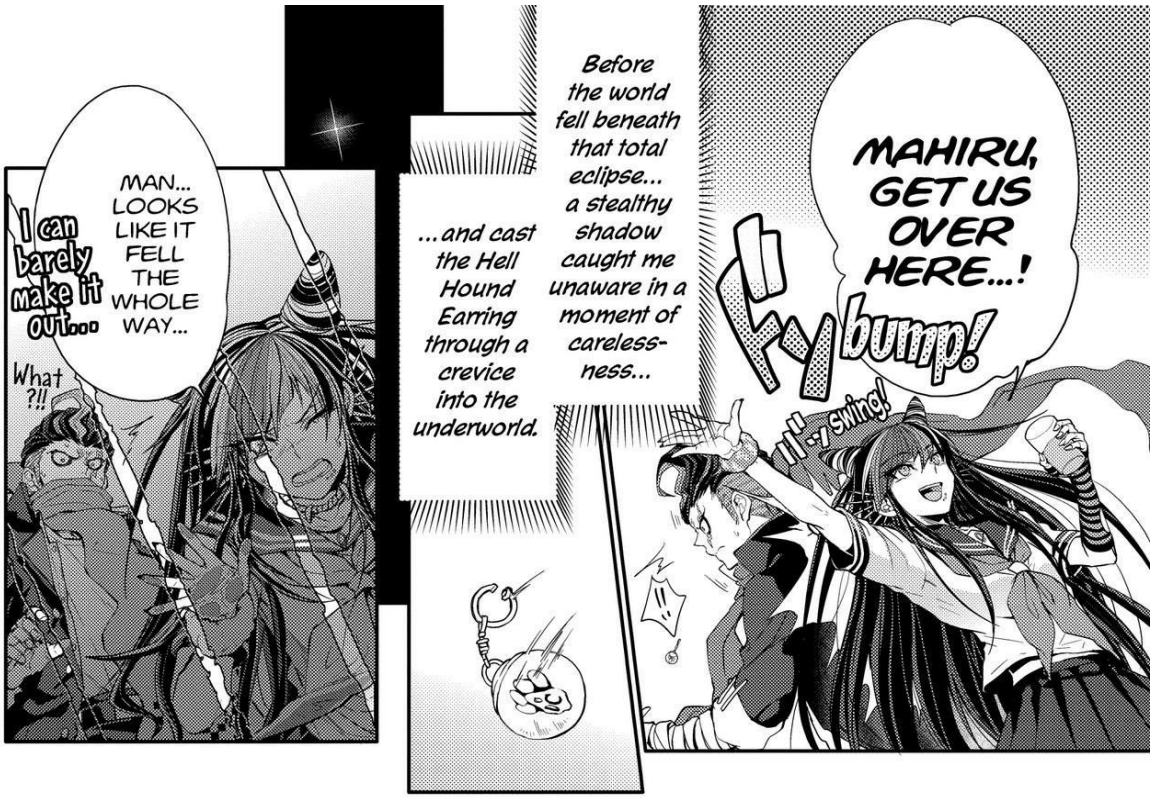
...

stunned

wa ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha

FOR ONE PLUS ONE PLUS ONE PLUS ONE EQUALS FOUR! YEA, TOGETHER THE DARK DEVAS ARE THE EVIL FOURTH EYE, AND NO VISUAL DECEPTION CAN ENDURE BEFORE THEIR BEADY AND PITILESS GAZE...

THIS HELL HOUND EARRING WAS THE CATALYST THAT STARTED IT ALL...
FINE, I WILL TELL YOU...
Heh!
P-PLEASE, TANAKA... TONE IT DOWN FOR ALL OF US TO UNDERSTAND ...
What...? I'M GONNA DIE OF EMBAR-RASSMENT JUST LISTENING TO HIM ...!
blushhh
カァ
...THAT EARRING ?
Hell Hound Earring!
Aloof by nature... I would normally have no intention of attending that social gathering you mortals call a... "party."
But my blood stirred with unusual excitement at the thought of the conclave this night. Perhaps a part of me sensed the impending tragedy...
And indeed... calamity struck in the midst of the bacchanal.
SQUEEK!
SQUEEK!
...OH. YOU WANT SOME OF THAT...?
Very well...
You're confiscating it...?!
I'm confis-cating this...
Restraints for the savage beast of darkness, Cerberus!
What is this thing...?!
ジャラ... jingle


MAN... LOOKS LIKE IT FELL THE WHOLE WAY...
I can barely make it out...
What ?!!
...and cast the Hell Hound Earring through a crevice into the underworld.
Before the world fell beneath that total eclipse... a stealthy shadow caught me unaware in a moment of careless-ness...
MAHIRU, GET US OVER HERE...!
bump!
swing!

I don't think you can get through...
Thereafter, I used every means imaginable to search the premises...
I-I'M INNO-CENT!!
eh?!
I'M ONTO YOU, FIEND! SEEING THAT I HAVE INSUFFICIENT MANA AT THE MOMENT, YOU MEAN TO PREVENT ME FROM SUMMONING THE HELL HOUND AS WELL...!
What are you plotting ...?!
...
AH...!

Until at long last...
...the Four Dark Devas came upon a corner...
...where the "Invading Black Dragon," Cham-P, made a grand discovery amidst the chaos!
Heh!
HIDDEN IN THE DEPTHS OF TREACHEROUS CARDBOARD MOUNTAINS ...
...HE FOUND THE "PASSAGE OF CHAOS" THAT DESCENDS TO THE UNDER-WORLD...
UPON OBTAINING AN ENCHANTED LIGHT FROM THE SUPER-MARKET, I DISCARDED ALL THOUGHTS OF SAFETY AND VENTURED BELOW...
...AT THE END OF MY SOLITARY JOURNEY... THE HELL HOUND EARRING WAS IN MY POSSESSION ONCE MORE!
TREMBLE IN FEAR BEFORE MY AWESOME POWER !!!
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA

A-AT ANY RATE, THIS MEANS IT IS POSSIBLE TO ENTER THE CRAWL-SPACE FROM THE STORAGE ROOM...
AND FROM THE SOUND OF IT, THOSE LITTLE HAMSTERS DID MOST OF THE WORK...
SO MUCH FOR ALL THOSE POWERS HE KEEPS BOASTING ABOUT.
He's just a hamster breeder.
ただのブリーダーじゃん...
SO TANAKA BROUGHT THE WEIRD THING THAT WOUND UP WITH YOUR SCREWDRIVER IN THE CASE OF DANGEROUS ITEMS...
HMM... IF THEY WENT THROUGH THE STORAGE ROOM, IT'D EXPLAIN WHY THE BLOODSTAINED TABLECLOTH WAS THERE!
SINCE IT'S COMPLETELY OPEN DOWN THERE, THE CULPRIT COULD HOP STRAIGHT FROM THE STORAGE ROOM TO THE DINING HALL. IT'D LEAVE THEM PLENTY OF TIME TO COMMIT MURDER.
HUH? SO, WHAT? YOU THINK IT'D SOUND FLESHIER... LIKE A "SQUELCH" OR "KUNCH"...?
UMMM... ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?
SOUND ABOUT RIGHT...?
stab!
ドッ
DURING THE PARTY, THE KILLER SLIPPED DOWN INTO THE CRAWL-SPACE FROM THE STORAGE ROOM...
...AND LET BYAKUYA HAVE IT!

gasp!
glare
THE ONLY PEOPLE UNACCOUNTED FOR DURING THE PARTY WERE...NANAMI AND...
staaaare
I KEEP TELLIN' YOU! IT WAS TOO DAMN DARK TO GO ANY-WHERE!
TOGAMI CONFISCATED ALL MY CRAP! HE DIDN'T LEAVE ME WITH ANYTHING I COULD USE AS A LIGHT!
gaaah!
YOU SAID THE CULPRIT SNUCK UNDER THE FLOOR-BOARDS...
NO, I WASN'T TALKING ABOUT THE SOUND EFFECTS.
...BUT WOULDN'T THAT MEAN THEY DITCHED THE PARTY?
hmmmm
steam
steam
I SPENT A LOT OF TIME IN THE KITCHEN, BUT POPPED IN AND OUT OF THE DINING HALL TO DROP OFF MORE COOKED DISHES.
ALTHOUGH I WASN'T WITH YOU DURING THE PARTY, I WAS KEEPING WATCH AT THE ENTRANCE THE WHOLE TIME.
A light...? Hmm... wasn't there something about a light...?
IN WHICH CASE, THAT BRINGS US DOWN TO...
CER-TAINLY! I'M HAPPY TO SERVE AS YOUR WIT-NESS!
I'M SURE MONOMI OVER THERE WILL TESTIFY AS MUCH...WON'T YOU?

WHA--?! WHY THE HELL ARE YA ACCUSIN' ME...?!

IT WAS KUZURYU...

...HIM, DOESN'T IT?

whoosh!

GOOD POINT! ALL HE HAD TO DO WAS SCUTTLE UNDER THE FLOORBOARDS LIKE A COCKROACH BEFORE THE PARTY--

--AND FEAST HIS EYES ON THE PANTY BUFFET ABOVE!

Then he could go out through the storage room during the power outage!!

IT'D BE A PIECE OF CAKE FOR YOU TO GET IN POSITION WITH THE WEAPON!

I CALL IT LIKE I SEE IT! EVERYONE ATTENDED THE PARTY...

...AND PUT UP WITH TOGAMI'S BODY SEARCHES... EXCEPT FOR YOU!

POINT MADE! JUST THE OTHER DAY YOU BOASTED ABOUT HOW YOU COULD "DO US IN" IF IT WOULD--

swing!

NOT SO FAST!

clench!

C-CUT TH' CRAP! TRYIN' TA LAY A MURDER RAP ON ME? I'LL RUB YA OUT!!

Love! Love!
thump!
Um...
OH? KUZURYU?
KOIZUMI, I DON'T THINK IT WAS HIM...
...KUZURYU HAS A LEGITIMATE ALIBI.
WHAT ...?
WHILE I WAS STANDING GUARD WITH MONOMI...
ANYWAY, WHAT CAN I HELP YOU WITH? DID YOU NEED THE OTHERS... MAYBE?
I-IT'S NUTTIN'! I JUST CAME OUT TA GET SOME FRESH AIR!
H-HEY...
...WHAT'RE YA DOIN'... ALL BY YERSELF OUT HERE...? AIN'T TH' PARTY INSIDE?
I'M ON LOOKOUT, SO MONOKUMA DOESN'T GET IN.
KEH...! LOOK WHO'S TAKIN' ONE FOR TH' TEAM!
And I'm here with her!

I SAW KUZURYU AFTER THE PARTY STARTED...
...SO I DON'T SEE HOW HE COULD POSSIBLY HAVE LAIN IN WAIT UNDER THE FLOOR-BOARDS.
B-BUT... IF YOU'RE INNOCENT, WHY WERE YOU HANGING OUT AROUND THE OLD BUILDING?
Puh-lease...!
...DON'T EVEN BOTHER WITH SOME CRINGEWORTHY EXCUSE LIKE, "I ACTUALLY WANTED TO ATTEND THE PARTY AND CAME TO SCOPE THINGS OUT," M'KAY?
Pffffft!
STU--! TH-THAT'S NOT WHY!
YOU MEAN THERE REALLY WAS A WAY TO ACCESS THE CRAWLSPACE FROM OUTSIDE, AND YOU WERE GOING TO CHECK IT OUT...?
Yep.
I HELPED TANAKA SEARCH OUTSIDE, BUT WE COULDN'T FIND ANYTHING EVEN REMOTELY RESEMBLING A WAY IN.
DON'T PUT NO WORDS IN MY MOUTH !!
hmph...
AT ANY RATE, YOU CANNOT TRAVERSE TO THE UNDER-WORLD THROUGH THE OUTSIDE REALM.
I CAN DECLARE WITH SOLEMN CERTITUDE AFTER SCRYING AND DISCERNING EVERY NOOK...INSIDE AND OUT...THAT ONLY ONE PASSAGE IS OPEN...!

BUT FUMBLING THROUGH THAT HALLWAY CLEAR DOWN TO THE STORAGE ROOM DURING THE BLACKOUT WOULD BE LIKE TRYING TO MAKE EGGS BENEDICT WITHOUT ANY EGGS!
Hmm...
DUNNO WHAT THAT IS, BUT IT SOUNDS GOOD!
Eggs-bene-what?
MEANING THE CULPRIT'S ONLY OPTION WAS TO USE THE ACCESS PANEL IN THE STORAGE ROOM DURING THE PARTY AFTER ALL.
うーん?
Hmm...?
TO BE P-PRECISE, IT WAS DURING THE POWER OUTAGE... RIGHT?
IF ONE OF US S-SLIPPED OUT, N-NO ONE WOULD EVEN NOTICE.
TERUTERU HAS A POINT...I COULDN'T EVEN MAKE IT TO THE STINKIN' OFFICE...
うーん
Hmm...
WHAT IF THE CULPRIT FOLLOWED A STRING, LIKE KOMAEDA DID WITH THE CORD?
UNLIKE THE LAMP'S CORD, A RIDICULOUSLY LONG STRING WOULD DRAW ATTEN-TION...
THINK THERE WAS ANOTHER PAIR OF NIGHT-VISION GOGGLES?
COULDN'T THEY USE SOME SORT A LIGHT...LIKE A, WHAT DO YOU CALL IT... LIGHTER?
UM... WOULDN'T TOGAMI CONFISCATE EITHER OF THOSE DURING HIS BODY SEARCH...?
SHUDDUP, SKANK...
Waaaah...!
A lighter...?
NO...THAT'S NOT IT... I'M CERTAIN SOMETHING ELSE MUST HAVE SLIPPED THROUGH TOGAMI'S SEARCHES...
!!
....

RIGHT. HE CALLED IT A HOT PLATE, BUT IT WAS ON THE EQUIPMENT LIST TOGAMI SHOWED ME BEFORE THE PARTY.
HUH? P-PORTABLE STOVE ?!
THE PORTABLE STOVE!
KITCHEN EQUIP
FORK x 20
KNIFE x 20
SPOON x 20
IRON SKEWER x 5
FRY PAN x 3
WINE GLASS x 20
BBQ HOT PLATE
INGREDIENTS, SPICES, ETC.
IT'S SMALL ENOUGH TO CARRY, AND COULD STILL LIGHT UP EVEN IF WE DIDN'T HAVE POWER.
NOT TO MENTION, IT WAS ALREADY IN THE OLD BUILDING AS PART OF THE KITCHEN FIXTURES...SO IT BYPASSED TOGAMI'S BODY SEARCHES.
INTER-ESTING... I OVER-LOOKED THE PORTABLE STOVE.
NEVER-THELESS, HINATA...
Here we go...!!
FURTHERMORE, IT WASN'T LOCKED IN THE CASE THAT CONTAINED DANGEROUS ITEMS...
...WITH THIS, IT'D BE A PIECE OF CAKE FOR THE KILLER TO GET THROUGH THE DARK HALLWAY...

THERE IS A HOLE IN YOUR REASONING...
WHAT ...?!
...THAT'S WRONG.
IF THE CULPRIT RELIED ON THE LIGHT OF THE PORTABLE STOVE TO NAVIGATE THROUGH THAT DARK HALLWAY...
Flicker
...WOULDN'T IT ATTRACT SODA'S ATTENTION? HE WAS WANDERING AIMLESSLY IN THOSE VERY HALLS.
COME ON. DON'T YOU REMEMBER WHAT SODA JUST TOLD US...?
HE COULDN'T EVEN FIND HIS WAY TO THE OFFICE.
glance
WHICH MEANS THE KILLER IS...
Eh?
OR DO YOU MEAN TO SUGGEST YOU HAVE MISGIVINGS ABOUT THE TESTIMONY MADE BY NONE OTHER THAN YOUR FRIEND AND CLASSMATE, SODA?

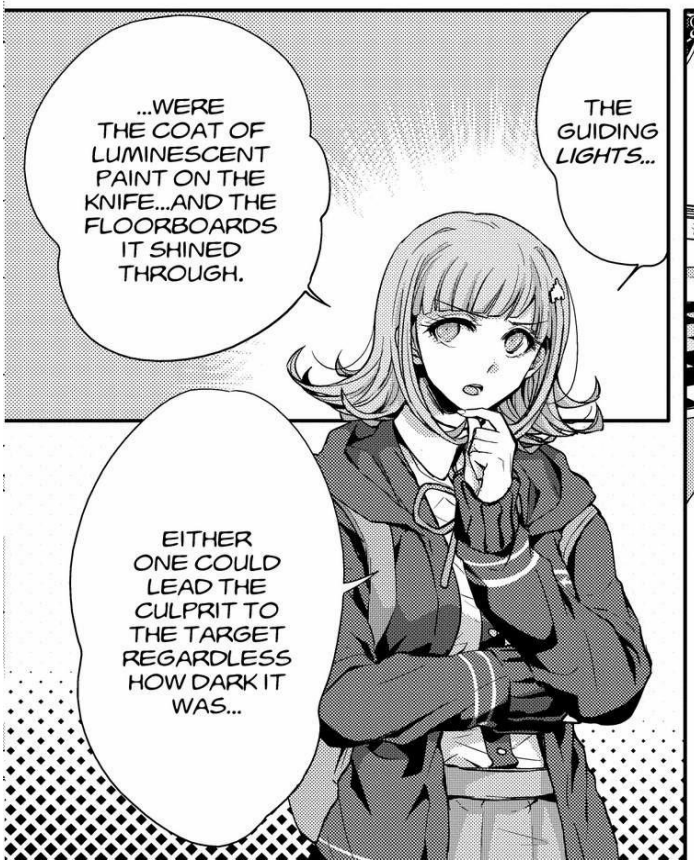
ガチャン
Chakk!
THE FIRE DOORS CONGEALED THE LIGHT!
gasp!
"CON-CEALED"... BUT YES.
bam!
W-WAIT! IT'S NOT LIKE I'M QUESTIONING YOUR STORY OR ANYTHING. I WASN'T IMPLYING THAT.
H-HINATAAA ...!!
AS YOU MAY RECALL... A SECTION OF THE HALLWAY WALL COULD BE USED TO BLOCK LIGHT.
--OOPS. YOU STILL CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT YOU ARE, CAN YOU...?
Sorry. No offense meant.
THEY'D FULLY BLOCK THE LIGHT ONCE THE CULPRIT ROUNDED THE BEND.
FIRE DOORS
EVEN IF THERE WERE SOME GAPS IN THE DOORS, A SHARP TURN WAS ONLY A FEW FEET AWAY.
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THOSE DOORS WOULDN'T ESCAPE THE EYE OF THE ULTIMATE--
HA, HA! AMAZING!

T- THAT DOESN'T MATTER RIGHT NOW!
choke!
The jerk... He was playing dumb about the doors from the get-go ...!!
ALL RIGHT, THEN... HOW'S THIS...?
LET'S SAY THE CULPRIT USED THE PORTABLE STOVE AND FIRE DOORS JUST AS YOU SAID, HINATA...
Is he... testing... me?
But why...?!
...WHAT THEN? ASSUMING THEY WENT TO THE STORAGE ROOM AND ENTERED THE CRAWLSPACE, WHAT DID THEY DO FROM THERE?
IT WOULD BE JUST AS DARK, SO HOW WAS THE CULPRIT ABLE TO GET INTO POSITION AND STAB TOGAMI?
YOU KNOW BETTER THAN TO CLAIM THEY SHINED A LIGHT ON HIM... DON'T YOU?
IF HE CAUGHT THE TARGET'S ATTENTION, THE GIG WAS UP.
I, UM...
YOU DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER, DO YOU?
BECAUSE YOU NEVER INVESTI-GATED THE CRAWL-SPACE FOR YOURSELF.

Hmm...
...LOOKING BACK, I WAS TOO PREOCCUPIED WITH RECLAIMING MY POWER TO GIVE IT MORE THAN A PASSING GLANCE...
...BUT THE FLOORBOARDS IN THE VICINITY OF TOGAMI'S DRIPPING BLOOD GLOWED MOURNFULLY IN THE DARKNESS...AS IF IN DIM VIGIL FOR HIS LOSS...

...!
BUT TANAKA DOES! HE SAW THAT AREA WITH HIS OWN TWO EYES!

C'mon...!
DID ANYTHING STAND OUT TO YOU? ANYTHING AT ALL?


THE GUIDING LIGHTS...
...WERE THE COAT OF LUMINESCENT PAINT ON THE KNIFE...AND THE FLOORBOARDS IT SHINED THROUGH.
EITHER ONE COULD LEAD THE CULPRIT TO THE TARGET REGARDLESS HOW DARK IT WAS...

THEY WERE G-GLOWING? DO YOU THINK IT WAS THE LUMINESCENT PAINT?
IF THERE WAS A "GUIDING LIGHT" TO MARK THE SPOT, WOULDN'T IT ALLOW THE CULPRIT TO REACH THEIR GOAL IN THE DARK?

SINCE TOGAMI WAS HOLDING THE KNIFE, HE GOT KILLED INSTEAD OF ME!
OH, NOW I GET IT...!
IN THAT CASE, THE KILLER TOTALLY USED THE MOMENT THE GLOWY KNIFE MOVED IN SOMEONE'S HAND AS THEIR CUE!
I see...
THE VERY GUIDE KOMAEDA PREPARED TO OBTAIN THE KNIFE SERVED AS THE CULPRIT'S SIGNAL TO ATTACK.
You're so trans-parent...
Clench
グッ...
WAIT... FOR THE CULPRIT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE KNIFE, WOULDN'T IT MEAN THEY KNEW ABOUT KOMAEDA'S PLANS...?
If I remember right...
That's exactly what it means.
...Komaeda spent the entire day after drawing that chopstick on his own... cleaning the old building.

However, that's under the premise we're excluding certain individuals...

If I connect the dots across...

...all of the evidence and gimmicks we've uncovered ...it could only be...

SAY, HANAMURA... WOULD YOU MIND TELLING US HOW YOU SPENT YOUR TIME AFTER THE DRAWING, UP UNTIL THE PARTY...?

HEY, DOES TERUTERU'S COOKING HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE CASE...?

I knew it...

HUH...?

I PRETTY MUCH SPENT THE DAY PREPPING THE FOOD OUT IN THE OLD BUILDING'S KITCHEN.

I WENT ALL OUT TO DAZZLE YOUR TASTE BUDS WITH EXTRA-ORDINARY PARTY FOOD... WORTHY OF THE ULTIMATE CHEF!

YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY! "ALL GOOD FOOD TAKES TIME"!

Heh!

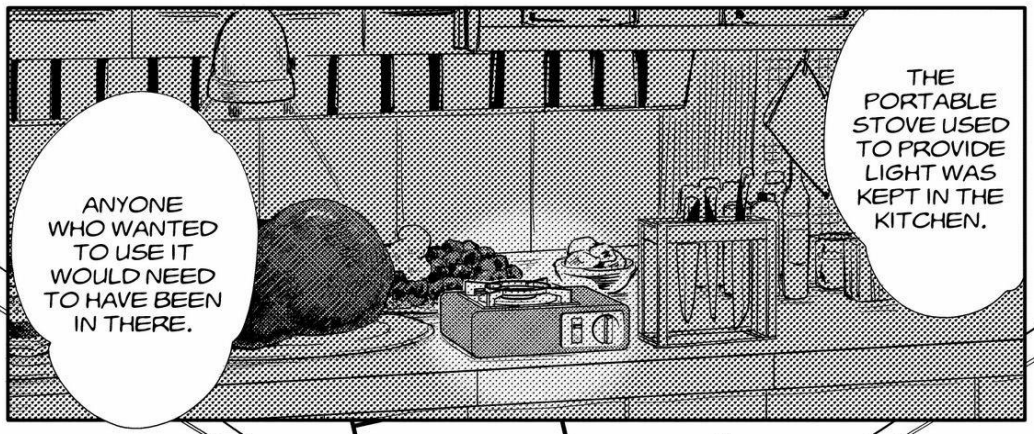
OF COURSE, AN AMAZING CHEF LIKE ME CAN WHIP UP WONDERS IN A FLASH.

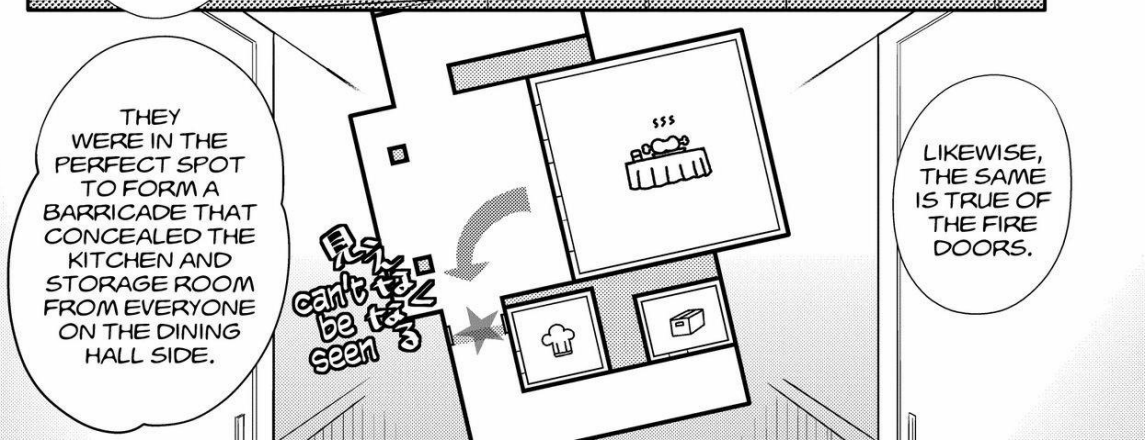
SURE DOES.
HE JUST CONFIRMED MY SUSPICIONS.
raise
THE ONLY PERSON WHO COULD HAVE LEARNED ABOUT KOMAEDA'S PLANS BEFOREHAND...
...WAS YOU...
...HANA-MURA!!

CHAPTER 5: TRUE CULPRIT

...THAT'S JUST IT.

YOU BET I OBJECT! WHY ARE YOU ACCUSING ME...?!
ALL I DID WAS SPEND THE DAY COOKING FOR YOU GUYS...

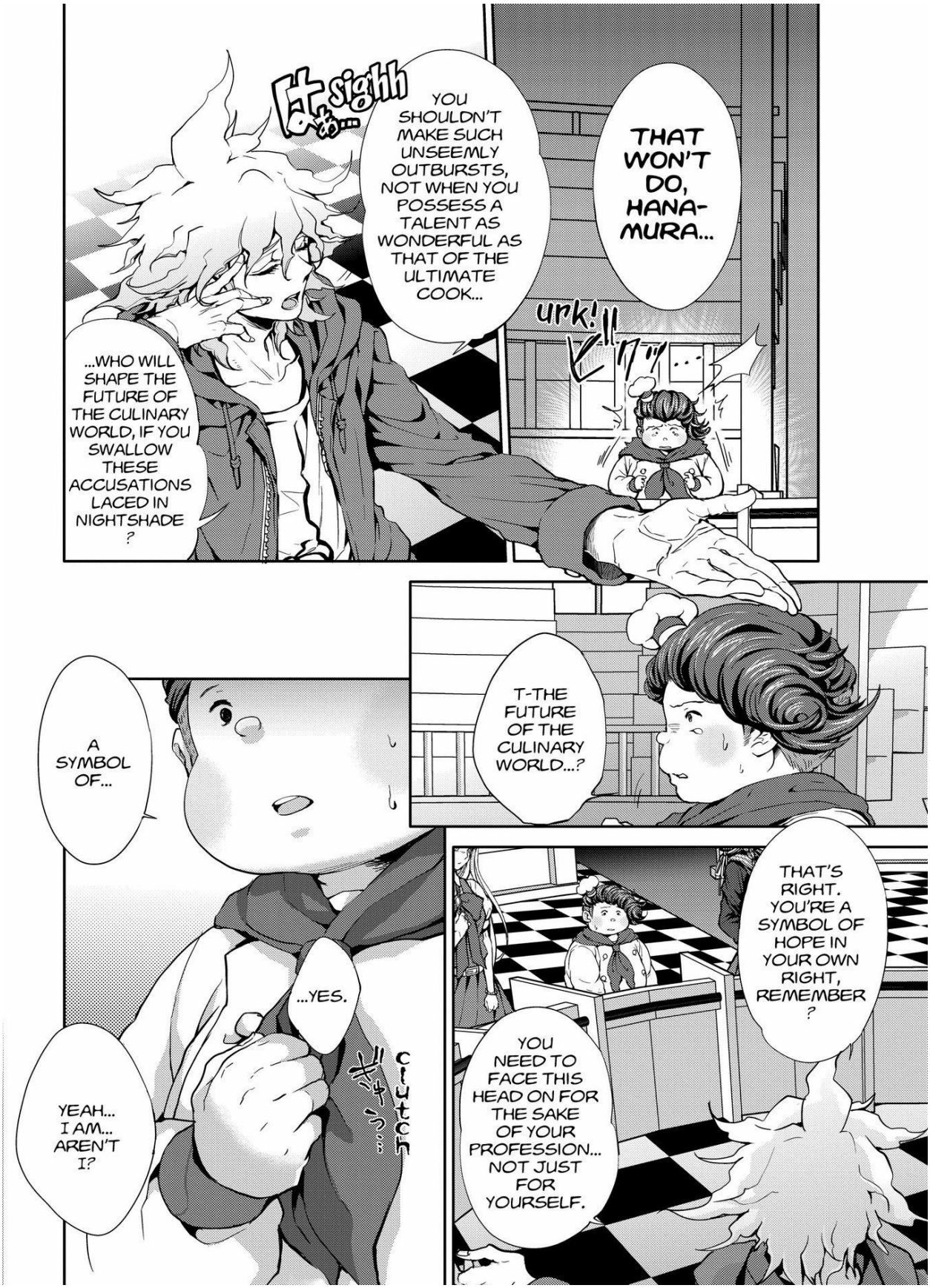

ANYONE WHO WANTED TO USE IT WOULD NEED TO HAVE BEEN IN THERE.
THE PORTABLE STOVE USED TO PROVIDE LIGHT WAS KEPT IN THE KITCHEN.


THEY WERE IN THE PERFECT SPOT TO FORM A BARRICADE THAT CONCEALED THE KITCHEN AND STORAGE ROOM FROM EVERYONE ON THE DINING HALL SIDE.
見えない
can't be seen
できなくなる
LIKEWISE, THE SAME IS TRUE OF THE FIRE DOORS.

H-HOLD ON THERE! I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT'S ALL IT TOOK FOR YOU TO SUDDENLY DECLARE IT'S ME!
WHEN YOU GET DOWN TO IT, EVERYONE IN THE DINING HALL WAS INCAPABLE OF COMMITTING THIS MURDER.
THERE'S MORE TO IT THAN JUST THAT.
THANKS TO HIS NIGHT-VISION GOGGLES, TOGAMI WOULD HAVE CAUGHT ANY SUSPICIOUS CHARACTER TRYING TO SNEAK OUT...
...MUCH LIKE HOW HE STOPPED KOMAEDA'S PLANS IN THEIR TRACKS.
THE KEY POINT TO THIS CASE IS THAT...
...KOMAEDA USED HIS ULTIMATE TALENT TO ARRANGE THIS PARTY AT THE OLD BUILDING.
ONLY THREE PEOPLE WENT THERE BEFORE THE PARTY STARTED.
TOGAMI TO COORDINATE THE EVENT...
...KOMAEDA TO CLEAN...
...AND HANAMURA TO COOK UP THE FEAST.
NO ONE ELSE.

GOING BY THE PROCESS OF ELIMINATION, WE CAN CROSS OFF TOGAMI, SINCE HE WAS THE VICTIM...
UM...!
ASSUMING THE CULPRIT WAS ABLE TO DISCOVER KOMAEDA'S PLANS...
...THIS PREP TIME WAS THEIR ONLY WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY!
...AND IT WAS OUTRIGHT IMPOSSIBLE FOR KOMAEDA. IF NONE OF US IN THE DINING HALL, OR OUTSIDE, COULD SNEAK INTO THE CRAWLSPACE...THAT LEAVES...
...YOU... AS THE PERSON ALL OF THE EVIDENCE IS POINTING AT.

ARE YOU THE TRUE CULPRIT WHO DID POOR BYAKUYA IN?!
IS IT TRUE, HANA-MURAAA ?!
N-N-NO...YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG...!
sweat
sweat
shake
shake
IT'S REALLY NOT WHAT YOU THINK...!!
DEN YA BETTER GET TA EXPLAININ' WHAT PARTS A' DAT WAS WRONG ...!
I... UM... UH...
...I... I...!
I WAS JUST--


THAT WON'T DO, HANA-MURA...
YOU SHOULDN'T MAKE SUCH UNSEEMLY OUTBURSTS, NOT WHEN YOU POSSESS A TALENT AS WONDERFUL AS THAT OF THE ULTIMATE COOK...
sighh
urk!
...WHO WILL SHAPE THE FUTURE OF THE CULINARY WORLD, IF YOU SWALLOW THESE ACCUSATIONS LACED IN NIGHTSHADE?
T-THE FUTURE OF THE CULINARY WORLD...?
A SYMBOL OF...
...YES.
clutch
YEAH... I AM... AREN'T I?
THAT'S RIGHT. YOU'RE A SYMBOL OF HOPE IN YOUR OWN RIGHT, REMEMBER?
YOU NEED TO FACE THIS HEAD ON FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR PROFESSION... NOT JUST FOR YOURSELF.

...KOMAEDA! WHY ARE YOU BUTTING IN?!
BEATS ME!
Hey, hey!
WHAT'S "NIGHT-SHADE"? DOES IT TASTE GOOD?
I'VE HEARD "BELLA-DONNA" IS PRETTY GOOD, TOO. WHY DON'T YOU TRY SOME LATER?
IF YOU'RE FEELING UPSET, REMEMBER... TAKE NICE, DEEP BREATHS!
grind!
RELAX, HINATA!
IF YOU KEEP SCOWLING, YOUR FACE IS GOING TO FREEZE LIKE THAT.
WHA--?!
...FINE WITH ME.
...
YER TH' GOD-DAMN PRO AT GETTIN' PEEPS UPSET!
YA WANT I SHOULD SHUT DAT SMARTASS MOUTH A' YERS FOR GOOD...?!

IF THAT IS WHAT YOU ULTIMATES DESIRE, I WILL GLADLY FORFEIT MY LIFE. JUST AT THE MOMENT, HOWEVER...
...WE'RE IN THE MIDST OF AN IMPORTANT DEBATE THAT MAKES YOU ALL SHINE MOST BEAUTIFULLY. I'D APPRECIATE IF IT COULD WAIT UNTIL WE'RE DONE.
KOMAEDA... WHAT IS YOUR ULTERIOR MOTIVE?
YER FREAKIN' NUTS.
gasp!
WHAT, INDEED...? GUYS, WOULD IT BE ALL RIGHT IF I ASKED YOU A QUESTION OF MY OWN NOW?
I WAS THINKING...IF HANAMURA WAS THE CULPRIT, THAT'D MEAN HE WENT TO THE CRAWL-SPACE DURING THE POWER OUTAGE ...
...IN WHICH CASE, HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THE VOICES MIODA HEARD IN THE DARK?
Yup!!
I'M 100% POSITIVE I HEARD TERUTERU IN THE DINING HALL WHEN ALL THAT WENT DOWN!
right here!!
ココっす!!
Guys, where are you? Crap... the power outage wasn't restricted to just the kitchen ?
Hey! What are you doing? Stop that!
Ow!
Do you suppose something tripped the breaker?

WAIT, WEREN'T YOU IN THE KITCHEN WHEN THE BREAKER TRIPPED?
SO HOW COME WE HEARD YOU CLEAR OVER IN THE DINING HALL?
Y- YOU BET IT DOES!! BECAUSE I REALLY WAS THERE!
IF YOU ASK ME...THIS PROVES THAT HANAMURA WAS IN THE DINING HALL DURING THE POWER OUTAGE...
...OF COURSE, THE HALLWAY WAS ALSO SUPER DARK, BUT I MANAGED TO INCH MY WAY ALONG THE WALL TOWARD THE SOUND OF YOUR VOICES...
I- I THOUGHT JUST THE KITCHEN LOST POWER AND RAN OUT WITHOUT THINKING...!
YEAH, BUT IT SOUNDS FISHY TO ME.
OWARI... THEY SAY YOU CAN TELL WHEN A PERSON'S LYING BY LICKING THEIR SWEAT...
WELL, TECHNICALLY IT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO COVER THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THE DINING HALL AND KITCHEN THAT WAY...
REALLY?

THIS IS ONE THING I CAN SAY WITH SO MUCH CERTAINTY, I'D BET MY CHARACTER STATS ON IT!
AND NOTHING CHANGES THE FACT I HEARD HIS VOICE IN THE DINING HALL!
...SO PUT ME TO THE TEST !!
drip
drip
hey!
HELL, NO! YOU'RE A GREASE-BALL.
c'mon, let's go!
ほら ほらぁ!!
...KOMAEDA...
...HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN?
SURE IT WASN'T A RECORD-ING?
NOPE, THAT WAS DEFINITELY LIVE!
He has a surprisingly hot voice!!
SEE? HANAMURA WAS IN THE DINING HALL, NOT THE STORAGE ROOM.
AS SUCH, HE COULDN'T POSSIBLY BE THE KILLER.

HANAMURA... IT'S NOT LIKE I *WANT* TO CALL YOU OUT...

W- WHY...?

...WHY ARE YOU SO OBSESSED WITH MAKING ME OUT TO BE THE KILLER?!

HINATA, YOU SHOULD BE MORE CONFIDENT.

AFTER ALL, YOU ARE SIMPLY PURSUING THE HOPE THAT YOU PER-SONALLY BELIEVE IN.

...

IS IT STRONG ENOUGH TO SMASH HANAMURA'S HOPE TO PIECES...?!
KEEP GOING, HAJIME! SHOW ME MORE OF YOUR HOPE!
...
swing
...!!!
AS A RESULT, IT'D SOUND LIKE HANAMURA WAS IN THE DINING HALL...EVEN IF HE WAS CALLING OUT FROM UNDER THE FLOOR-BOARDS...!
Damn jerk...!!
THAT FLOOR WAS RIDDLED WITH GAPS, REMEMBER?
THE FLOOR IN THE DINING HALL.

NOW I SEE... HANAMURA TRIED TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION HE WAS IN THE SAME ROOM AS US BY INTENTIONALLY SHOUTING FROM THE CRAWLSPACE, CORRECT?
SOUNDING FAMILIAR, HANAMURA?
チラッ glance
...J-JUST A SEC.
...
IS IT TRUE, HANAMURA...?
G-GIVE ME A SECOND...
HEY! FESS UP ALREADY!
W-WHAT... DO YOU HAVE TO SAY FOR YOURSELF, HANA-MURAAA...?
I... I...

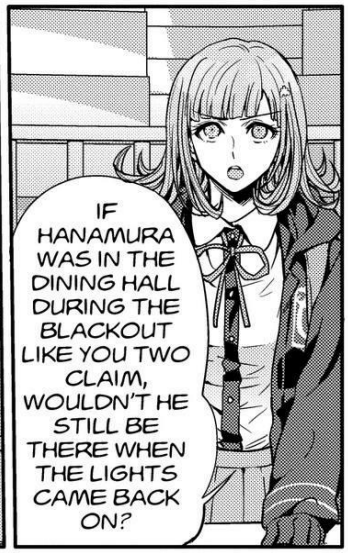
...OI SAID TER GIVE UZ A ZEG-UND !!!
gasp!
!!!
EEYaaaa!!
スミマセェェェェん
I'm sorry!

...UH, WHERE WERE YOU FROM AGAIN?
gaahh!
ME? OI'ZZ BURN IN WEST AZABU AN' ROIZED IN SOUTH AOYAMA!
GET ORF MOY BAAACK! OI'VE DUNE 'AD IT UBB TUH 'ERE WIZZYER SHITE!
OI TOL' YOU'M...OI WUZZIN THEY GODDAM DININ' HALL DURIN' TH' BLACK-URRT!
fwoosh!

G-GIMME A BREAK!
HANA-MURA...
SOMEHOW I DOUBT HE'S FROM SUCH UPSCALE AREAS!

UM... DOES ANYONE REMEMBER SEEING HANAMURA AT THE TIME?

YEAH, I SHOULD THINK SO. IT'S NOT LIKE HE COULD BOUNCE BACK AND FORTH DOWN THAT DARK HALL.


IF HANAMURA WAS IN THE DINING HALL DURING THE BLACKOUT LIKE YOU TWO CLAIM, WOULDN'T HE STILL BE THERE WHEN THE LIGHTS CAME BACK ON?

...OI WASN'T IN THE DININ' HAAAAL?!
YERTIZ! OI'M TEAZY O' THIS SHITE! KIN ANY O' YOU'M PROVE...
!!
I WAS STUFFING MY FACE.
I-I DON'T REMEMBER...
IT GOT DARK SO SUDDENLY, I TRIPPED OVER SOMETHING, AND THEN THE WORLD WENT TOPSY-TURVY...
I WAS FOCUSED ON THE HELL HOUND EARRING ...
...Y-YOU AGAIN?!
...
... ACTUALLY, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO.
HANAMURA, IF YOU TRULY WERE IN THE DINING HALL WHEN WE GOT POWER BACK...
...YOU WOULD REMEMBER HOW WE FOUND TSUMIKI AT THAT TIME.

N-NOT COOL, HINATA!
S-SORRY, BUT THIS QUESTION IS CRUCIAL TO VERIFYING IF HE WAS THERE.
P-PLEASE DON'T REMIND MEEE...!
モヤ bzzzzz!
カー blushhhhhh!
W-W-W-W-WHY ARE YOU B-BRINGING TH-THAT UPPP...?!
モヤ bzzzzz!
モヤ bzzzzz!

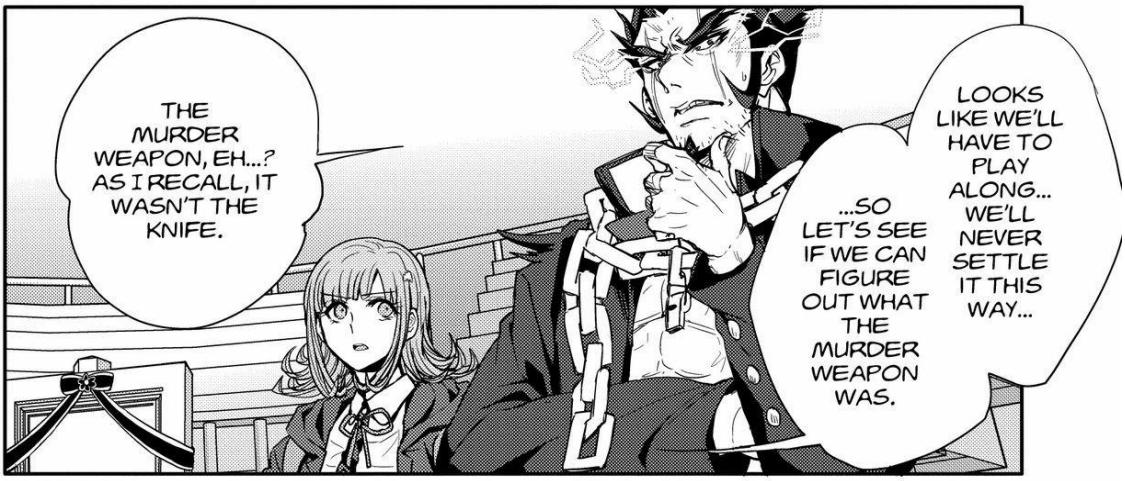
WAAH...! I-I'M SORRY FOR P-PUTTING ON SUCH AN UNSIGHTLY D-DISPLAAAAY ...!
WELL, HANA-MURA?
IF YOU WERE IN THE DINING HALL, YOU SHOULD KNOW THE ANSWER!
THAT FALL BELONGED IN A CATEGORY ALL ITS OWN. IT'S NOT THE SORT OF THING YOU CAN FORGET AT THE DROP OF A HAT.
EH...? LEMME THINK...
あせ sweat
sweat あせ
UH... HUH? WHY ISN'T IT COMING TO ME? THAT'S SOOO WEIRD! GUESS IT SLIPPED MY MIND, MAYBE ...?
T-THERE'S NO WAY A PERVERT LIKE YOU WOULD FORGET SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
Not that!
Urk...

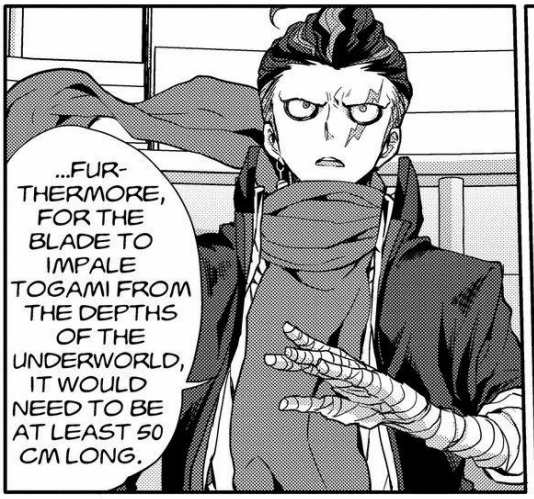
...K-KOMAEDAAA! SAY SOMETHING!
T-THAT DOESN'T HELP ANY...
WELL?! CAN YOU TELL US HOW SHE FELL, TERU-TERU?!
FOR THE RECORD, I CAPTURED THE MOMENT IN PERFECT DETAIL WITH MY PHOTO-GRAPHIC MEMORY!
EEEP!
EH?! WAIT!! WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "GIVE UP"?!
...YOU MIGHT HAVE TO GIVE UP.
KOMAEDA...! WHAT'S YOUR DEAL?!
FIRST YOU WERE SIDING WITH THE KILLER, NOW YOU'RE THROWING HIM TO THE DOGS...!
HANAMURA, THIS IS JUST AS DISAP-POINTING FOR ME.
I'M SAD TO SEE A MAN I ADMIRE REACH THE LIMIT OF HIS HOPE...
IN A WAY, IT ALMOST FEELS LIKE... MY OWN DREAM IS BEING CRUSHED.

OOOAAR ZUNN! AIN'T NUDDIN' SETTLED YIT!
growl!!
YOU'M ZILL HAAABINT IDUNTIFI-CATED THE MOIWDER WUPPON!
BLEDDY GISS ON!
DON'EE KEEP YAAAM-MERIN' ON LOIKE OI'M THE GODDAM KILLERRR!
HUH? BUT DIDN'T WE SETTLE THAT ALREADY?
YES, BUT... THIS IS SUCH A SAD ARGU-MENT.
...IT TEARS AT MY HEART.
slump しょぼん...
I-I CAN'T EVEN UNDERSTAND WHAT HE'S SAYING ANYMORE...
I BELIEVE HE SAID, "YOU STILL HAVEN'T IDENTIFIED THE MURDER WEAPON"!
?!
WHAT?! YOU SPEAK HICK?!
gaahhh!!!
IFF YOU'M WAANT TER LABEL UZZ THE KILLER, YOU'M GODDUN REBDEEL THE MOIWDER WUPPON FURST!

Let's just get this over with.
ISN'T THE MURDER WEAPON IRRELEVANT AT THIS POINT?
"IT'S NOT IRRELEVANT! IT'S NOT IRRELEVANT AT ALL!"
IT BAIN'T NURRRELE-PHANT! IT BAIN'T NURRRELE-PHANT UZZALL!

OH, RIGHT. "IF YOU WANNA LABEL ME THE KILLER, YOU'VE GOTTA REVEAL THE MURDER WEAPON FIRST."
or so he said...
Mo...
MONOMI...


THE MURDER WEAPON, EH...? AS I RECALL, IT WASN'T THE KNIFE.
...SO LET'S SEE IF WE CAN FIGURE OUT WHAT THE MURDER WEAPON WAS.
LOOKS LIKE WE'LL HAVE TO PLAY ALONG... WE'LL NEVER SETTLE IT THIS WAY...


...FUR-THERMORE, FOR THE BLADE TO IMPALE TOGAMI FROM THE DEPTHS OF THE UNDERWORLD, IT WOULD NEED TO BE AT LEAST 50 CM LONG.

RIGHT... BASED ON TOGAMI'S P-PUNCTURE WOUNDS, IT WAS A NARROW BLADE ABOUT 5 MM DIAMETER IN W-WIDTH...

B-BUT DIDN'T TOGAMI LOCK THEM IN HIS DURALUMIN CASE?
YEAH...BUT REMEMBER WHAT HE SAID BEFORE THE PARTY?
A SKEWER WOULD WORK... WOULDN'T IT?
I'm sure I've seen something... that meets both requirements.
It was...
WELL, THIS IS AN OLD BUILDING. IT WAS ALREADY MISSING BY THE TIME I GOT HERE. I WONDER WHERE IT COULD BE...
I NOTICED THE NUMBER OF SKEWERS DOESN'T MATCH THE LIST...
A S-SKEWER CERTAINLY M-MEETS ALL OF THE R-REQUIRE-MENTS!
AH... AAAAHH...
CAAAMON, HANA-MURA! WHERE'D YA STASH IT?!
URK!!
THAT MISSING SKEWER IS THE MURDER WEAPON, ISN'T IT ...?!
TOTTEMO

TH' SICK FREAK PROLLY DUMPED IT SOME-WHERES ON TH' ISLAND!
HE'S JUST SPEWIN' OUT GIBBERISH TA AVOID TH' QUESTION!
Whoosh
...AVRIL LAVIGNE!!
"AVRIL LAVIGNE!"
イェア yay!
HUH? HE REALLY DID SAY THAT?!
IMPOSSIBLE! LITTERING IS PROHIBITED UNDER THE SCHOOL TRIP REGULA-TIONS.
IF HE BROKE THE RULE, IT'D SET OFF SIRENS THROUGH-OUT!
MEANING THE AREA HE COULD CONCEAL IT WAS LIMITED TO SOMEWHERE IN THERE...
...HOW MUCH YOU WANNA BET HE HID IT IN THE KITCHEN?
...THAT HANAMURA NEVER ONCE STEPPED OUT OF THE OLD BUILDING.
AND I CAN VERIFY FROM MY TIME ON GUARD DUTY...

If Hanamura was the culprit, he could only access the kitchen and storage room during the power outage...
NATURALLY, THE KITCHEN WAS NO EXCEPTION.
... THROUGHOUT MY EXPLORATION OF THE DECREPIT BUILDING.
ALAS, I NEVER CAME ACROSS ANY SUCH WEAPON...
There weren't any hiding spots large enough for a skewer that could slip past all of--
I naturally searched both rooms during investigation time, but it was just as Tanaka said.
I'm sure Togami checked them, too.
A PASSAGE TO THE UNDERWORLD WOULDN'T APPEAR IN THE PARTY FOOD! DO YOU KNOW NOTHING OF THE DARK ARTS...?
BY EVERY INCH, DID THAT INCLUDE THE PARTY FOOD IN THE KITCHEN?
TANAKA... DIDN'T YOU SEARCH EVERY INCH OF THE OLD BUILDING TO FIND A WAY UNDER THE FLOORBOARDS?

...IT CAN'T BE!!
gasp!
HANAMURA! YOU HID THE SKEWER INSIDE THE MEAT ON A BONE, DIDN'T YOU?!
WHOD'RE YOU'M Z-ZZAAY-IN'?!
sweat!
sweat!
sweat!
...OI'D NEB-BURR... HIDE THE WUPPON THAAAR ...
THERE'S NO WAY HE COULD HIDE IT IN THE FOOD !
YEAH... "THERE'S NO WAY." THAT'S WHAT ALL OF US THOUGHT... WHICH IS PRECISELY HOW ALL OF US MISSED IT.
ON THE OTHER HAND, PRETTY MUCH THE ONLY PLACE LEFT YOU COULD HIDE THE WEAPON IS INSIDE THE FOOD WE OVERLOOKED.
AND OUT OF ALL THOSE DISHES, THE ONLY ONE LARGE ENOUGH TO CONCEAL A SKEWER IS...
...THE MASSIVE MEAT ON A BONE!
I-IS IT TRUE ...?!
OI PLEAD TH' FIFF!
daaaaa!

WE'LL JUST HAVE TO CHECK IT OUT FOR OUR-SELVES!
PLEASE, MONO-KUMA BABY! FOR REAL THIS TIME!
Take two!!
JAAAST S-STOP ROIGHT...
GET THAT HUNK OF MEAT OVER HEEREEE !!
Are you serious?!
LIKE THAT'D WORK HERE!
WAIT, WHAT? WHERE'D MONOKUMA GO?
UH... WELL, YOU SEE...
もぐ
...MEAT IS MURDER.
Y'KNOW...
...SOME SAY...
もぐ

SO IT REALLY WAS...
A SKEWER... RIGHT ?
I-ISN'T THAT ...?!
Fidget! Fidget!
N-NO, I DIDN'T DO IT...
OI NOOO WUZZ GOIN' AAN! YOU'M PLAANTED THIZ!
YOURN CAAAAN-SPIRIN' T' FRAME UZZ!!
shinggg!
POP!
...OH.
WELL, LOOKEE HERE!
NOW THIS IS ONE BONE YA WANNA MAKE SURE IS GONE BEFORE EATIN'!
...AND HERE THAT WEAPON WAS A TESTAMENT TO YOUR CULINARY PROW-ESS.
...HOW COULD YOU SPURN THIS INCREDIBLE CRAFTSMAN-SHIP ONLY TO PUT UP SUCH A...MEANING-LESS FIGHT ?
UH-UH...

NGH ...!
I'M DISAP-POINTED IN YOU.
THIS IS A FAR CRY FROM WHAT I'D CALL "HOPE."
HEY, KOMAEDA ...
...I'M SORRY, BUT COULD YOU BE QUIET?
Yeah, okay.

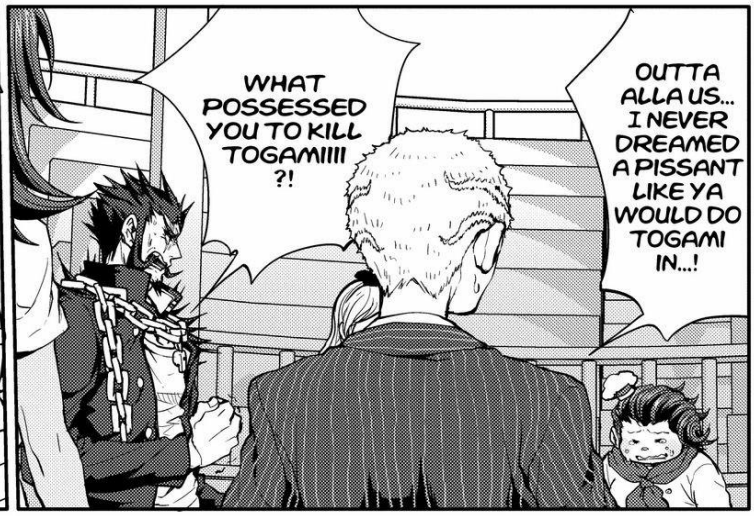
T-THERE MUST BE...SOME SORT OF MISTAKE. THERE'S NO WAY I WOULD EVER...
...TAKE THE LIFE OF...
UGN...! UUGH...!
ぼろろ sob
ぼろろ sob
slump
...WAAAAAAAH!
HANA-MURA...
IT APPEARS... THIS FIGHT IS OVER.
Phew, I'm stuffed!
食った 食った
belchhh
boo-hoo!

Make absolutely sure each of ya votes fer someone. Got it?
WELP, IT'S HIGH TIME WE BEGAN THE HIGHLY-ANTICIPATED VOTIN' TIME!
PLEASE PRESS THE SWITCH IN FRONT OF YA TO CAST YER VOTE!
Oops! That meat brought out my wild side...
pick!
pick!
AHH! I SEE YOU TWERPS FINALLY MADE UP YER GODDAMN MINDS!
WILL YER VERDICT COME OUT RIGHT? OR HORRIBLY, AWFULLY, FATALLY WRONG...?!
WHICH ONE WILL Y'ALL DECIDE IS GUILTY?!
UPU PU! DON'T IT GIVE YA THE SHIVERS ...?!

CHAPTER 6: CLASS TRIAL ADJOURNED!

SWEET! JACKPOT! YA NAILED IT!
Ugh... Uhh...
THE CULPRIT GUILTY OF KILLIN' TOGAMI IN THIS ROUND OF THE KILLIN' GAME... WAS TERUTERU HANAMURA!

shake
shake
I-IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK! I...I...


WHAT POSSESSED YOU TO KILL TOGAMI!!!! ?!
OUTTA ALLA US... I NEVER DREAMED A PISSANT LIKE YA WOULD DO TOGAMI IN...!

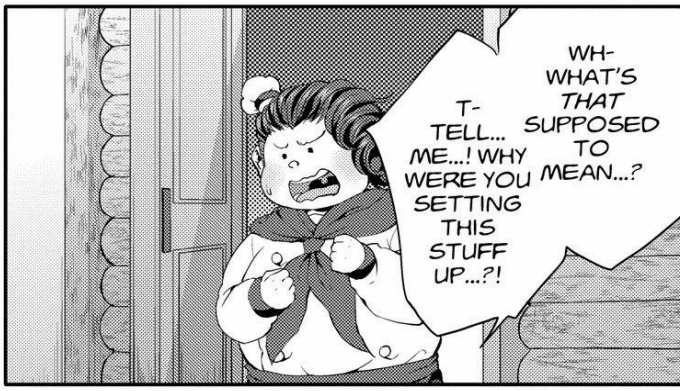
Eh...?

I WAS ONLY TRYING TO STOP KOMAEDA FROM GOING THROUGH WITH HIS PLANS TO COMMIT MURDER !!
...I WAS JUST... TRYING TO SAVE YOU GUYS...!

Komaeda... was planning to...?
J-JUST LIKE I TOLD HINATA...
FROM MORNING ON, I WAS GETTING FOOD READY OVER IN THE OLD BUILDING...
T-THAT'S WHEN I HEARD...
URK!!
HEH HEH...HEH HEH HEH HEH...AHA...! HA HA HA HA HA HA!
Whoa...!!
WHAT'S THAT VOICE...?!
AH HA HA HA HA HA
ISN'T THAT... KOMAEDA...?
I-I WONDER WHAT IT COULD BE...
He nearly gave me a heart attack!
kreaak
kreaak
That's when I caught him.

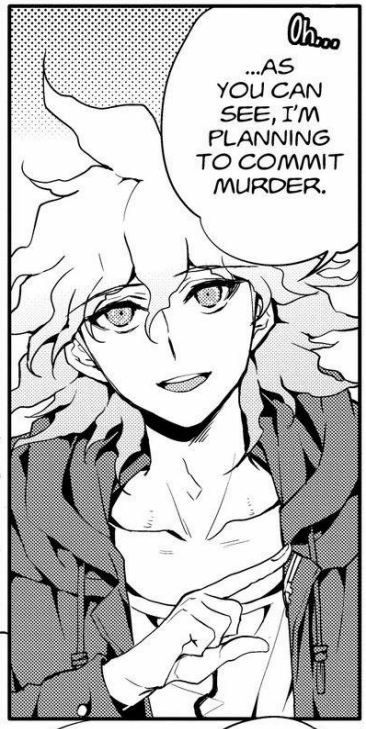
Oh, crud...!
I could tell something bad was going down... and secretly followed Komaeda to see what he was up to...
He took out several irons, only to leave them in the storage room...
...and fiddled with the timers on both A/C units...
Instead of finding him on cleaning duty...
...Komaeda was setting up the knife under the table...!
OOPS...
...YOU CAUGHT ME?
That's why I...
He couldn't look more suspicious if he tried.
WH-WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING?!! YOU'VE BEEN WORKING ON IT FOR A WHILE NOW...
...I-I SAW EVERY-THING!

WHAT'S WITH THE KNIFE... OR THAT OTHER STUFF ?!


T-TELL... ME...! WHY WERE YOU SETTING THIS STUFF UP...?!
WH-WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN...?

HANA-MURA...
...JUST SO YOU KNOW, THERE'S NO POINT IN TRYING TO STOP ME.

EH...?

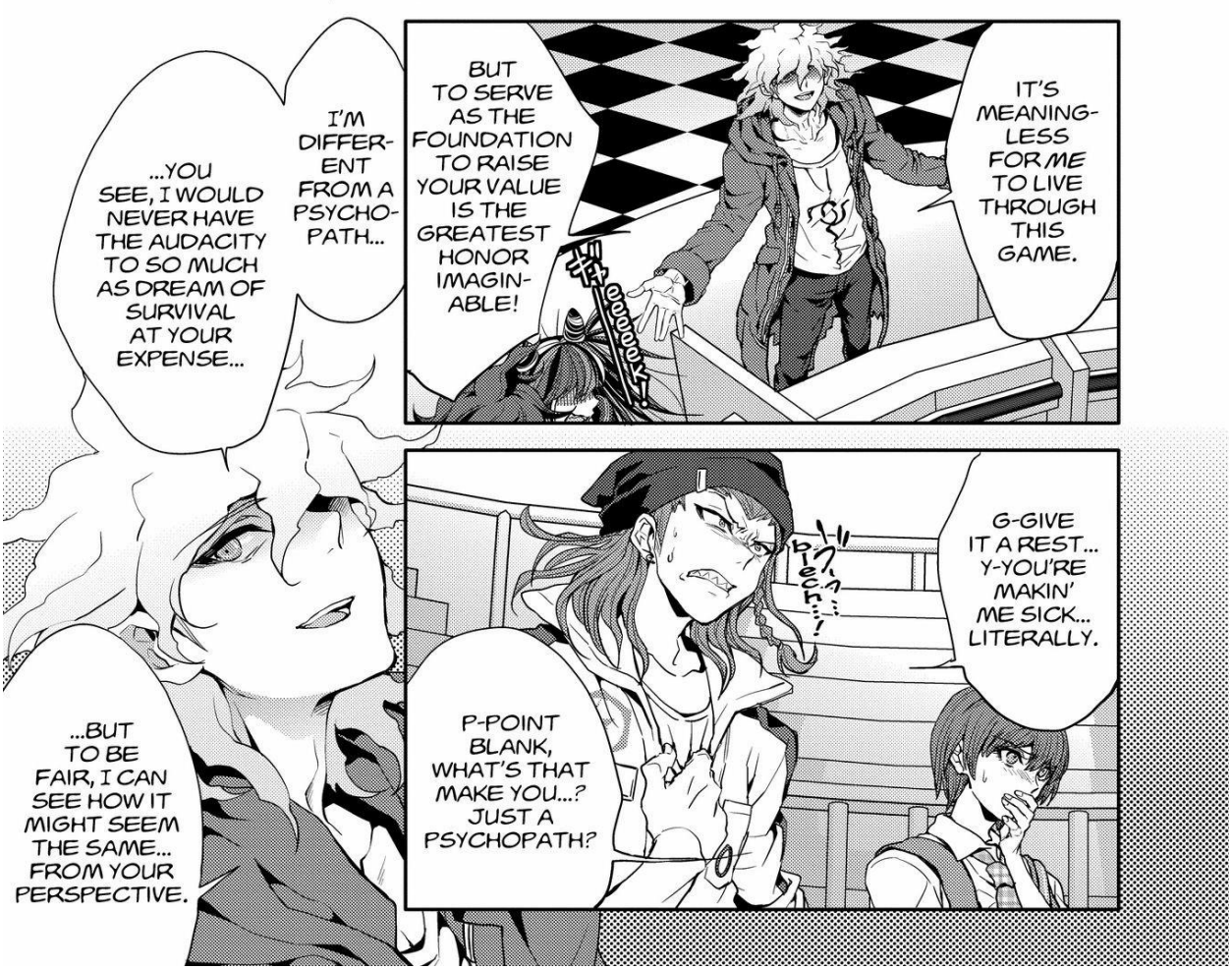

...AS YOU CAN SEE, I'M PLANNING TO COMMIT MURDER.

...SOONER OR LATER, I WILL DEFINITELY SUCCEED IN COMMITTING MURDER.
...IF I CAN'T TOMORROW, I'LL TRY THE FOLLOWING DAY OR THE NEXT. NO MATTER HOW LONG IT TAKES...
IF I CAN'T TODAY, I'LL TRY AGAIN TOMOR-ROW...

BUT YOU'RE MIS-TAKEN.
THAT'S NOT WHY.
sigh... I WAS AFRAID YOU'D JUMP TO THAT CONCLU-SION.
WH-WHAT THE HELL?! NO MATTER HOW BADLY--HOW DESPER-ATELY--YOU WANT OFF THIS ISLAND, THAT'S NO EXCUSE...
I MERELY WANT THE KILLING TO START.
...I LOVE EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU AS THE SYMBOLS OF HOPE...THE ULTIMATES!
SEE, I CARE DEEPLY FOR ALL OF YOU...
I DON'T HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO SHINE... THAT'S WHY I YEARN TO SEE ALL OF YOU SHINE INSTEAD!
THAT'S PRECISELY WHY...I DON'T WANT THE PROSPECT OF KILLING TO INTIMI-DATE YOU...
...I BELIEVE HOPE WILL NEVER LOSE TO DESPAIR... AND I'D LIKE YOU ALL TO PROVE IT TO ME!!
HIGH SCHOOL

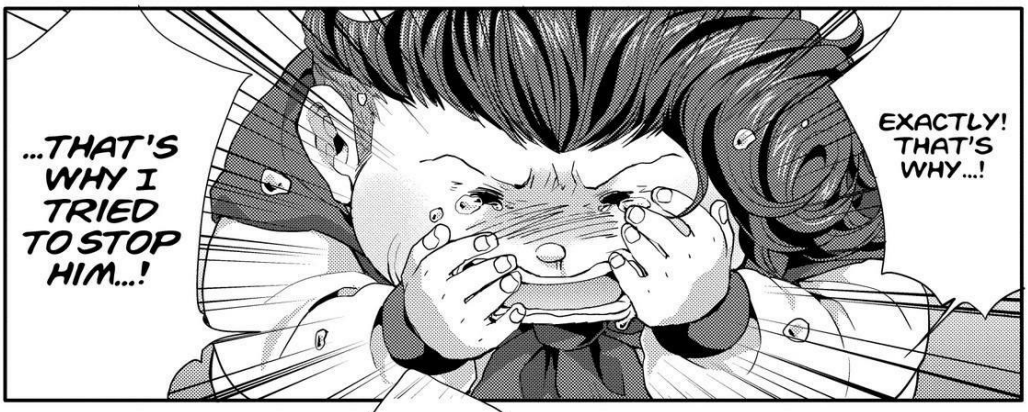
I-IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE A SICK JOKE? YOU DON'T SERI-OUSLY... MEAN...
I HAD A FEELING YOU WOULDN'T UNDER-STAND...
I DON'T GET YOU...! YOU'RE SERI-OUSLY MESSED UP...!
IT'S FINE IF YOU DON'T RECIPRO-CATE THESE FEELINGS.
I'M JUST AN IDOLIZING FAN...
...I GUESS YOU COULD SAY I'M THE "ULTIMATE ULTIMATE FANBOY"...
AND HON-ESTLY...
GASP!
...ISN'T THAT THE NATURE OF LOVE?
W-WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT...? THAT FLEW RIGHT OVER MY HEAD.
UMMM...
...AH. WELL, IT'S LIKE, YOU WANT YOUR FAVORITE BOXER TO TAKE ON THE STRONGEST OPPONENTS AND PREVAIL.
...DA HELL IS DAT SPOSED T' MEAN? YA SCREWIN' WITH US, WISEASS?!
HUH...? IS IT REALLY THAT STRANGE...?

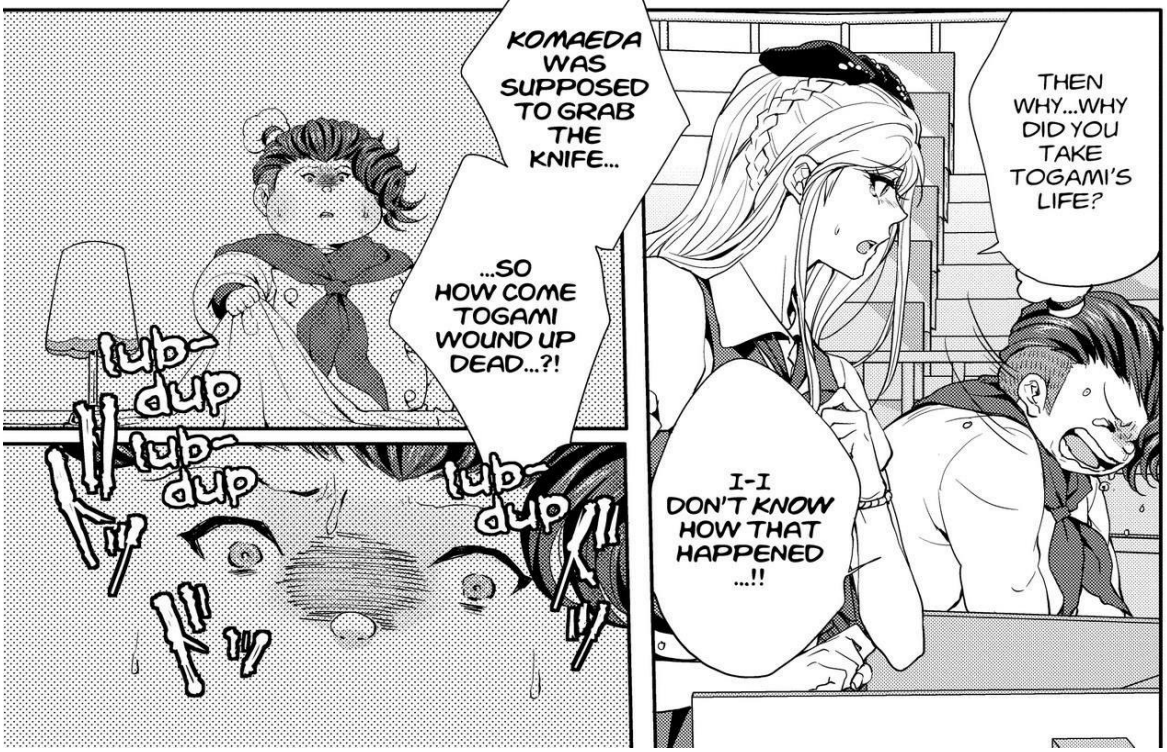
THE MORE OPPRESSIVE DESPAIR GROWS, THE BRIGHTER HOPE CAN SHINE...
THINK ABOUT IT...FOR WORTHLESS TRASH, THIS KILLING WOULD BE NOTHING SHORT OF A TERRIBLE TRAGEDY.
...I'M FILLED WITH SHEER ECSTASY TO THINK EVEN A LOSER LIKE ME WITH AN INSIGNIFICANT TALENT COULD SERVE AS YOUR ORDEAL!
hahh
BUT FOR VALUABLE INDIVIDUALS, COULDN'T IT SERVE AS AN ORDEAL THAT ONLY FURTHER INCREASES THEIR WORTH...?


IT'S MEANINGLESS FOR ME TO LIVE THROUGH THIS GAME.
BUT TO SERVE AS THE FOUNDATION TO RAISE YOUR VALUE IS THE GREATEST HONOR IMAGINABLE!
I'M DIFFERENT FROM A PSYCHOPATH...
...YOU SEE, I WOULD NEVER HAVE THE AUDACITY TO SO MUCH AS DREAM OF SURVIVAL AT YOUR EXPENSE...
G-GIVE IT A REST... Y-YOU'RE MAKIN' ME SICK... LITERALLY.
P-POINT BLANK, WHAT'S THAT MAKE YOU...? JUST A PSYCHOPATH?
...BUT TO BE FAIR, I CAN SEE HOW IT MIGHT SEEM THE SAME... FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE.

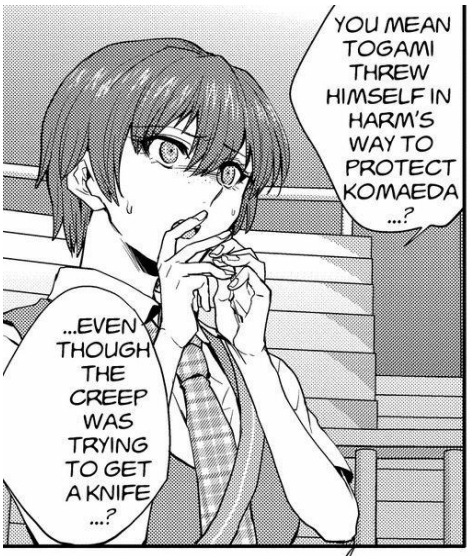
...EH?
MORE LIKE WHY HE SET THINGS UP SO HANAMURA *WOULD*, I THINK.
IS THAT WHY YOU DIDN'T CARE IF HANAMURA DISCOVERED YOUR PLANS?
N-NO WAY...
...OUT OF THE HOPE HIS SCHEME WOULD ENTWINE WITH YOUR OWN...?
ISN'T THAT WHY YOU INTENTIONALLY REVEALED YOUR PLANS TO HANAMURA?
KOMAEDA WANTED TO DRAW US INTO THE KILLING.
...TO THAT END, HE SOUGHT TO MAKE THE MYSTERY AS COMPLEX AS POSSIBLE.
I TOLD HIM, "YOU SHOULD STEER CLEAR OF IT...SINCE YOU COULD GET HURT IF YOU FELL."
THAT'S WHY I WENT SO FAR AS TO TELL HIM ABOUT THE ACCESS PANEL I FOUND IN THE STORAGE ROOM WHILE CLEANING.
...I'LL ADMIT, IT'S TRUE I ANTICIPATED AS MUCH.

That manipulative ...!!
WHAT KINDA LOGIC IS DAT? DIS WACKO ACTS LIKE HIS OWN PROSECUTIN' ATTORNEY ...!
NO... NOOOO ...!!


...THAT'S WHY I TRIED TO STOP HIM...!
EXACTLY! THAT'S WHY...!

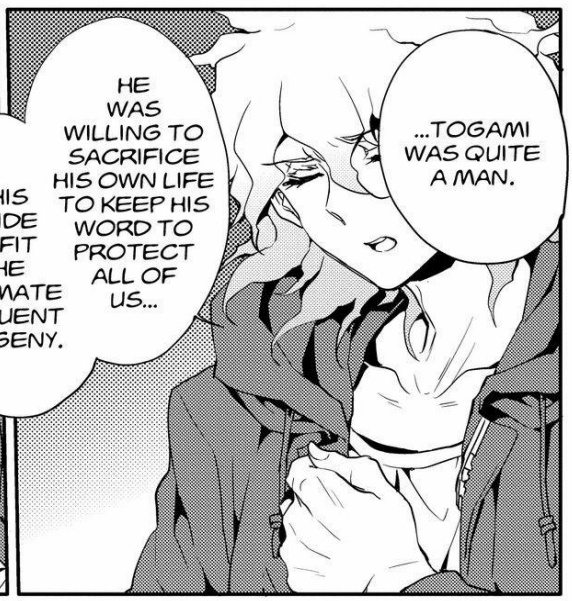

KOMAEDA WAS SUPPOSED TO GRAB THE KNIFE...
...SO HOW COME TOGAMI WOUND UP DEAD...?!
lub-dup lub-dup lub-dup
THEN WHY...WHY DID YOU TAKE TOGAMI'S LIFE?
I-I DON'T KNOW HOW THAT HAPPENED ...!!

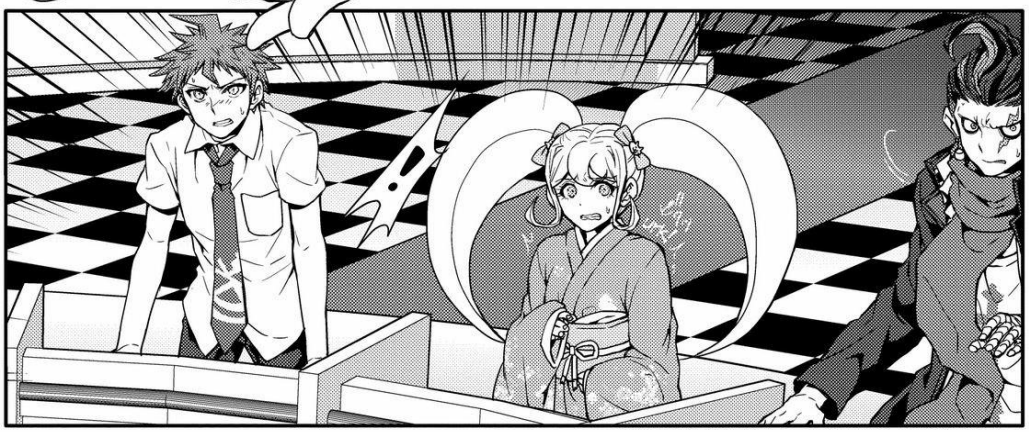
NOPE... YOU'RE WRONG... I THINK.
bang!
...WHY DIDN'T KOMAEDA GET IT ?!!
IT'S ALL BECAUSE TOGAMI INTERFERED WITH KOMAEDA GETTING THE KNIFE...
Rest at ease knowing that I will protect you no matter what.
I won't allow any of you to die on my watch!
REMEMBER WHAT TOGAMI SAID...?
H-HE WAS WHAAAAT ...?!
MY WORD...TO THINK HE'D GO SO FAR TO KEEP HIS PROMISE...
KNOWING TOGAMI, HE WAS TRYING TO PROTECT... KOMAEDA.

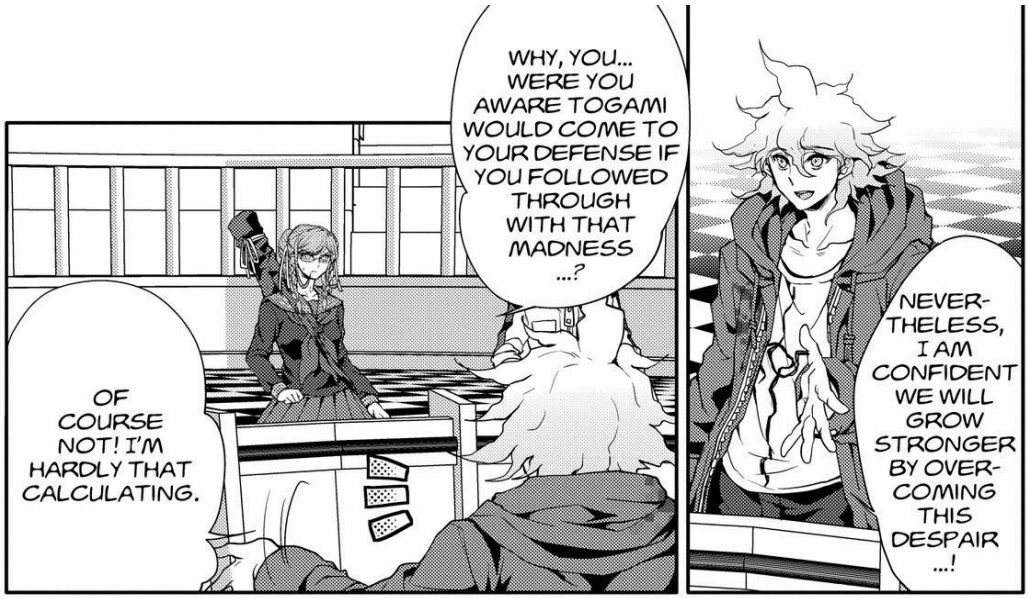

YOU MEAN TOGAMI THREW HIMSELF IN HARM'S WAY TO PROTECT KOMAEDA ...?
...EVEN THOUGH THE CREEP WAS TRYING TO GET A KNIFE ...?

gleam
...AND REALIZED THE POTENTIAL KILLER WAS AFTER KOMAEDA'S LIFE...
I'M NOT SURE HOW WELL HE COULD SEE WITH THOSE NIGHT-VISION GOGGLES ... BUT I HAVE A FEELING HE NOTICED SOMEONE MOVING UNDER THE FLOOR-BOARDS ...

...YET TO THINK HIS EFFORTS WOULD HAVE SUCH A DISASTROUS OUTCOME! THERE COULD BE NO GREATER DESPAIR !


...TOGAMI WAS QUITE A MAN.
HE WAS WILLING TO SACRIFICE HIS OWN LIFE TO KEEP HIS WORD TO PROTECT ALL OF US...
...HIS PRIDE BEFIT THE ULTIMATE AFFLUENT PROGENY.




WHY, YOU... WERE YOU AWARE TOGAMI WOULD COME TO YOUR DEFENSE IF YOU FOLLOWED THROUGH WITH THAT MADNESS ...?
OF COURSE NOT! I'M HARDLY THAT CALCULATING.
NEVER-THELESS, I AM CONFIDENT WE WILL GROW STRONGER BY OVER-COMING THIS DESPAIR ...!

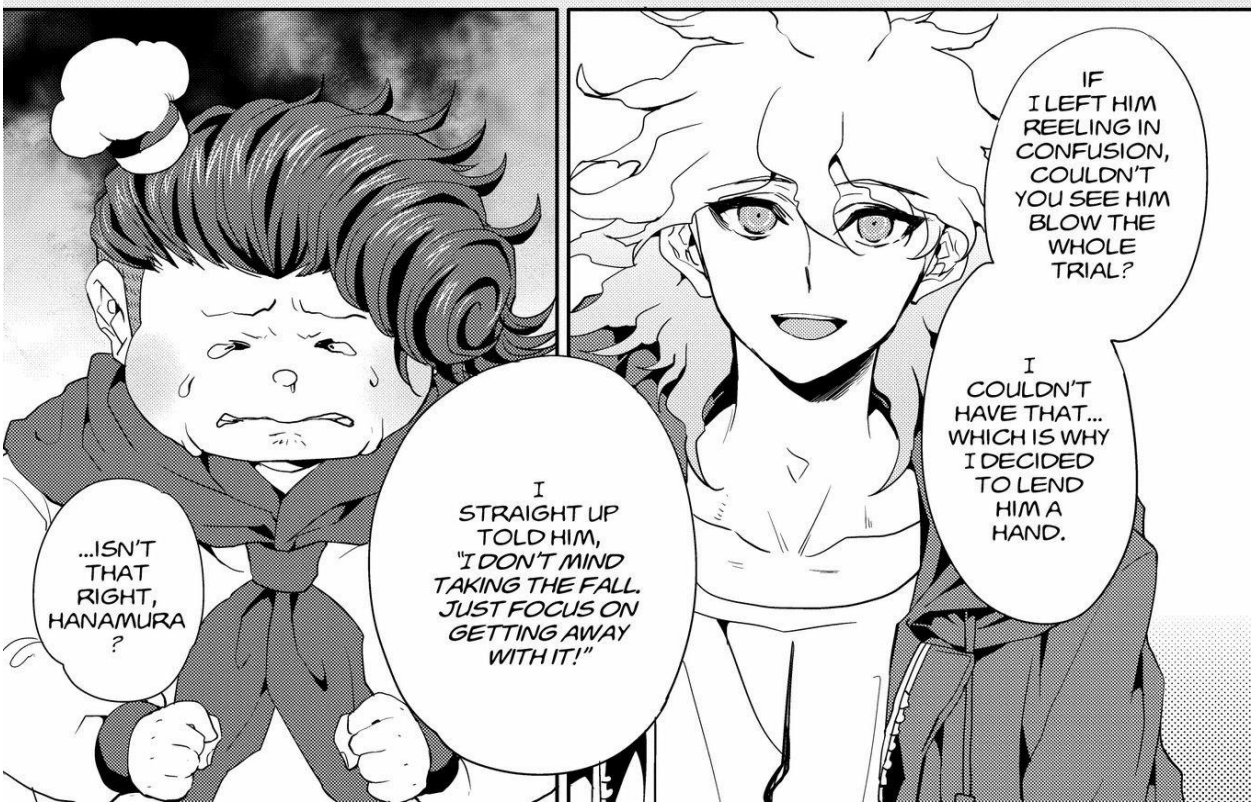
I NEVER DREAMED I'D ACTUALLY SURVIVE!
...BUT THIS OUT-COME WAS COMPLETELY UNANTICI-PATED.
I MERELY TOOK SOME PRECAU-TIONARY MEA-SURES ...

...H-HOW DID YOU COME TO THAT DECISION?

...SO I DECIDED TO OFFER HANAMURA MY ASSISTANCE.
IT DIDN'T SEEM RIGHT TO LET MY SECOND CHANCE AT LIFE GO TO WASTE...

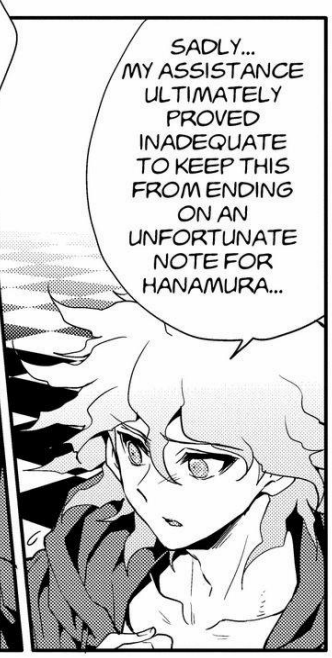
...THE ONE I'M SEARCHING FOR..."THE ABSOLUTE HOPE CAPABLE OF OVERCOMING ANY DESPAIR."
THERE WAS ALWAYS THE POSSI-BILITY HE WAS THE ONE...
BELIEVE IT OR NOT, HANAMURA POSSESSED SUCH "STRONG HOPE"...
...THAT HE TOOK A LIFE TO BRING IT TO FRUITION...

...YOUR TARGET IS STILL ALIVE... AND NOW TOGAMI IS DEAD INSTEAD?
I MEAN, COULD YOU IMAGINE HOW IT WOULD FEEL TO DISCOVER...
NOT TO MENTION...I COULDN'T STAND BY AND DO NOTHING WHEN I PUT MYSELF IN HIS SHOES...


...ISN'T THAT RIGHT, HANAMURA?
I STRAIGHT UP TOLD HIM, "I DON'T MIND TAKING THE FALL. JUST FOCUS ON GETTING AWAY WITH IT!"
IF I LEFT HIM REELING IN CONFUSION, COULDN'T YOU SEE HIM BLOW THE WHOLE TRIAL?
I COULDN'T HAVE THAT... WHICH IS WHY I DECIDED TO LEND HIM A HAND.

REJOICE! AFTER ALL... YOU WILL SERVE AS THE GLORIOUS SACRIFICE THAT UNITES EVERYONE WITH EVEN GREATER HOPE!

...EVEN SO, TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR ACHIEVE-MENT!
HANAMURA'S DEATH WON'T BE IN VAIN!
swing!


SADLY... MY ASSISTANCE ULTIMATELY PROVED INADEQUATE TO KEEP THIS FROM ENDING ON AN UNFORTUNATE NOTE FOR HANAMURA...

KOMAEDA ...!!
I MEAN, SHOULDN'T WE SNUFF 'IM OUT RIGHT HERE AN' NOW?
HEY... IS IT WISE TA LET DIS DIPSHIT RUN LOSE?

S-SACRI-FICE ...?!

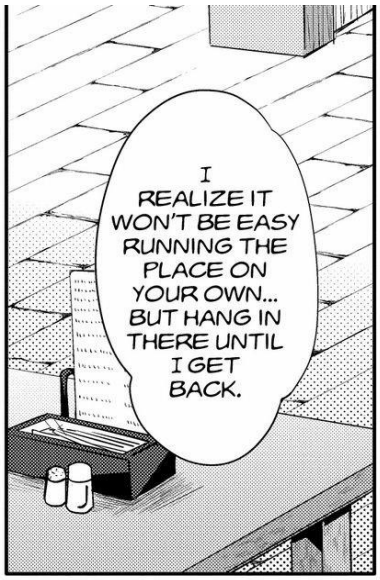
KYAA! I CAN'T BELIEVE MY FUZZY EARS! HIGH SCHOOLERS THESE DAYS ARE SO VIOLENT...

...AND SORRY...

urk!
...!
...BUT KOMAEDA DOESN'T GET TA PUSH UP ANY DAISIES.
ON THE OTHER CLAW, HANAMURA'S NUMBER IS DEFINITELY UP.
u pu
pu...
YA HAVEN'T FURGOTTEN, HAVE YA? I MENTIONED THIS AT THE START OF THE CLASS TRIAL.
A FUN "PUNISH-MENT" IS IN STORE FER THE KILLER WHO'S CAUGHT!
C-C'MON! HELP ME, GUYS!
I WAS JUST TRYING TO STOP KOMAEDA... AND ACCIDEN-TALLY --!
plead!
W-WAIT...
...T-THAT WAS, UH, YOU KNOW? BASICALLY LIKE SELF-DEFENSE...
BE REAL FOR A SEC... WHEN YA LEARNED ABOUT KOMAEDA'S SCHEME... DIDN'T YA THINK THIS WAS YER BIG CHANCE?
OH, PAW-LEASE... DO YA SERIOUSLY THINK ANYONE WILL BUY THAT LAME EXCUSE AFTER YA BEAR-UTALLY KILLED A CLASSMATE...?

AT LEAST BE HONEST WITH US... DURIN' YER FINAL MOMENTS.
sighh...
WEREN'T YA DESPERATE TO KILL KOMAEDA AND SACRIFICE THE LIVES OF EVERYONE ELSE TO SURVIVE?
N-NO! I...!
IF YA HIJACKED HIS SET-UP TO KILL HIM, YA FIGURED...
...NO ONE WOULD TRACE IT BACK TO YOU.
whirl!
W-WHY? TELL US WHY YOU DID IT!
ANSWER ME, HANAMURA! WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO COMMIT MURDER...?!!
UGH... UUF...! UUUHHH ...!!
H-HANA-MURA...
UH... UUGH !
I... DESPER-ATELY...
...DESPER-ATELY WANTED... TO GO HOOMMMMEEE !

tmp
tmp
tmp
tmp
tmp
tmp
tmp
sizzle
sizzle
sizzle
花村
HANAMURA
Be-cause... she's wait-ing...
...for me to graduate from Hope's Peak Academy and come back to her...
sizzz
zzz
zzzle
cldng
...NEXT TIME I COME HOME, I'LL PROBABLY BRING BACK PROPOSALS TO OPEN BRANCHES IN AOYAMA AND AZABU!
OH, AND A BLUSHING BRIDE!
pop!
MOMMA!
I'M HEADED OFF TO THE ACADEMY SOON...
klakk
chak
HEY! I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW, I'M SERIOUS!
ANYONE WHO GRADUATES FROM THAT SCHOOL IS PRACTICALLY GUARANTEED TO SUCCEED!
OKAY, SWEETIE.
GOODNESS, YOU'RE ALWAYS GOING ON ABOUT THAT.


I REALIZE IT WON'T BE EASY RUNNING THE PLACE ON YOUR OWN... BUT HANG IN THERE UNTIL I GET BACK.

...

hmff
むぅ...
You don't believe me...

THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT ...!
...WHAT IF YOU COLLAPSE AGAIN WHEN YOU'RE ALONE?!

NO, IT WON'T BE EASY...
...I'LL HAVE TO WORK HARD TO KEEP THE HANAMURA DINER'S DOORS OPEN UNTIL YOU COME BACK A RESPECTED CHEF.
ジュウウ
sizzle
ジュウ
sizzle

whew
フゥ...

I KNOW YOU'RE STRONG...
I KNOW... BUT...
I'LL BE FINE! I'M STRONG AS A HORSE! I WON'T LET SOME SICKNESS GET THE BETTER OF ME...

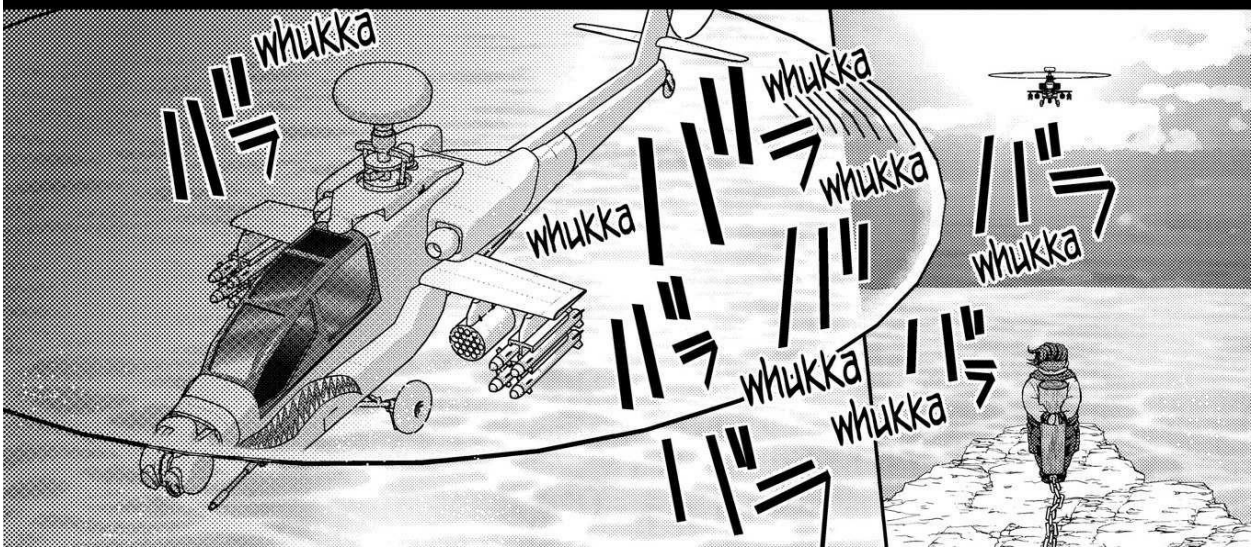
キュ
tug
...I SWEAR, YOU'RE SUCH A WORRY-WART.
sighhh
!
...MOMMA?
I'M HEADING OUT...
...MOMMA...!
YOU ARE MY HOPE...
HOPE'S PEAK ACADEMY, HUH...?
...GO ON! AREN'T YOU GOING TO COME BACK AN AMAZING CHEF? GO PUT YOUR HEART INTO IT!
R-RIGHT!

I GAVE HER...MY WORD...
...I SWORE... I WOULD SAVE THE HANAMURA DINER...!
EVEN THOUGH HER HEALTH ISN'T THAT GREAT... SHE'S THERE ALL ALONE...
MOMMA'S WAITING FOR ME TO KEEP THAT PROMISE...!
...DESPITE IT ALL, SHE'S HOLDING OUT FOR ME...
sob!
...IF THAT'S TRUE, WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THE HANAMURA DINER?!
AND MOMMA WAS WAITING FOR ME! WHAT HAPPENED TO HER ?!!
...AND IT'S BEEN YEARS SINCE WE ENTERED THE SCHOOL...
I'VE GOTTA HURRY HOME... BUT THAT DAMN BEAR CLAIMED WE LOST OUR MEMO-RIES...
THERE'S NO WAY IN THE WORLD I BELIEVE THAT CRAP...
NO! I DON'T BELIEVE THEM ...!!
YOU ACTUALLY BELIEVED THOSE... FALLA-CIES ...?
IT'S OBVIOUS MONOKUMA WAS FEEDING US LIES... BUT...
squeeze

...GUYS... I'M SORRY.
...THEY ONLY MADE ME WANT TO GO BACK ALL THE MORE ...!!
...IT'S JUST...I WAS TOTALLY FLIPPING OUT BACK THERE...
...IT'S NOT LIKE I WANTED TO LEAVE AT THE COST OF YOUR LIVES...
...PERHAPS IT WAS ME...WHO'S REALLY LOST TOUCH WITH SANITY...
OH, NOW I SEE...
IT DOESN'T HELP... THAT INSTEAD OF SKEWERING KOMA-EDA...
clench
H-HANAMURA ...!
I... K-KILLED... T-TOGA... MI...

WHA--?!
...!
JEEZ... FOR A GUY KNOWN AS THE ULTIMATE COOK, YER MOTIVE'S CHEAP AN' COMMON AS FAST FOOD!
Sighhh...
SO Y'ALL PARDON ME IF I DON'T SAVEUR TH' MOMENT.
whisk!
LET'S GET COOKIN'... ON THAT PUNISH-MENT!
thrash!
Jeez, yer annoyin'...
You can't !!
Don't do it!
squirm!
NOW THEN, I'VE PREPARED A SPECIAL PENALTY THIS TIME...
W-WAIT JUST A SECOND !
I-I'M BEGGING YOU!
...FOR THE ULTIMATE COOK... TERUTERU HANAMURA !!
...TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED !!
I WON'T ASK FOR FORGIVENESS ANY MORE...! AT LEAST...
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE HANAMURA DINER?! T-TO MOMMA ...?!

HANAMURA WAS FOUND GUILTY.



Momma...
BOMP

...I couldn't...
スル…
SLIP
...I'm so sorry...

!!
I couldn't become your...
...ray of hope.
ドプン
plopp!
ジュウウウウ
sizzzzzzzle
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krackle
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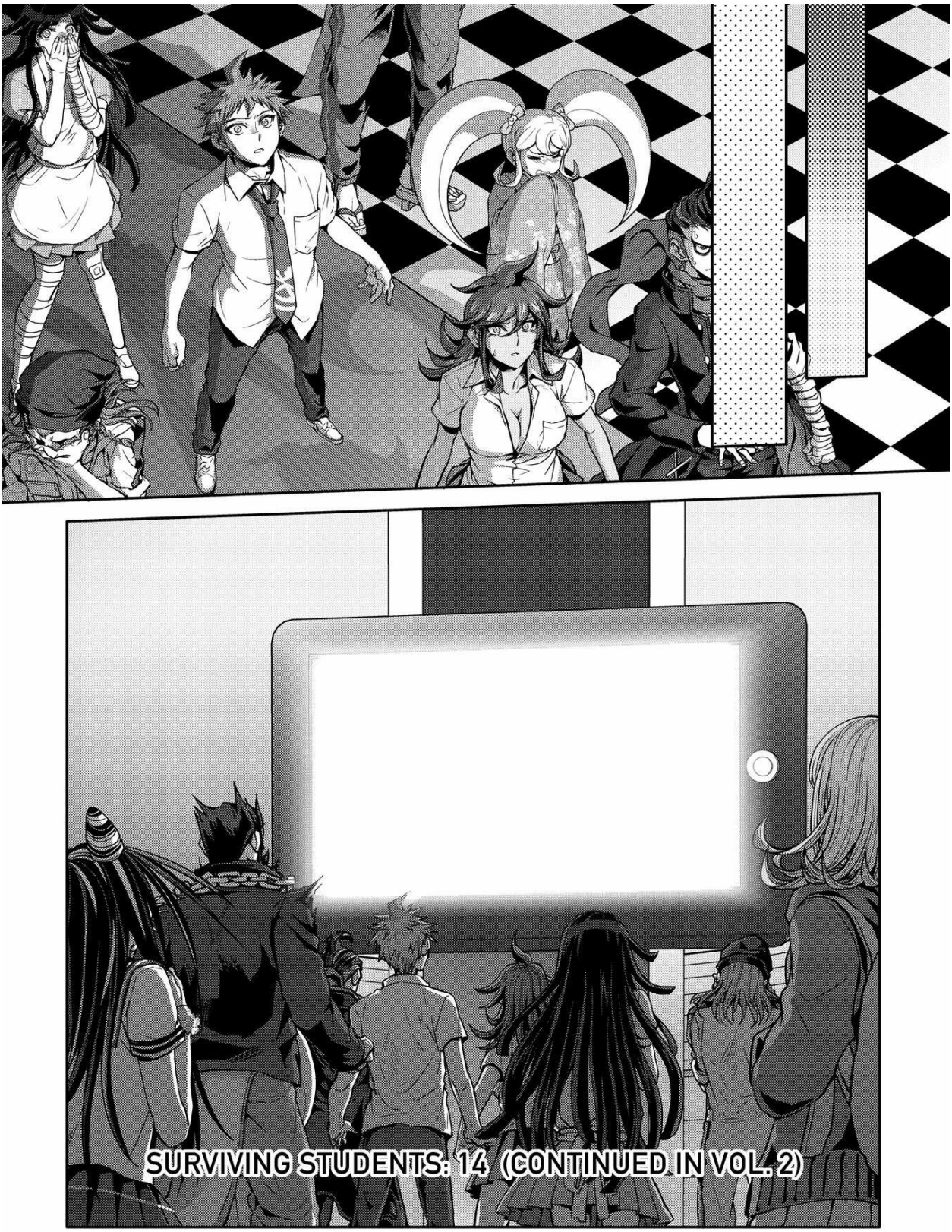
SURVIVING STUDENTS: 14 (CONTINUED IN VOL. 2)

DR2: SPECIAL ILLUSTRATIONS

Hotel-Restaurant

USAMI CORRAL
Usami Corral

Rocketpunch Market
COLA
COLA
GUMMY
GUMMY

Hotel-Lobby

Hello, everyone. I'm Kuroki Q. I'm truly excited to be part of this manga publication!

I first started playing **Danganronpa** about this time last year. A friend introduced me to the game when I had some down time. Something of a gamer to begin with, I quickly got immersed in the unique story and gameplay and played it the whole way through. Now jump forward to the release of **Danganronpa 2: Goodbye Despair.** Right when I was thinking about buying a copy, I just so happened to receive the offer to work on this manga series. I'll never forget how shocked I was. As a personal **Danganronpa** fan, I never dreamed I'd get to work on it like this… It's the Ultimate Twist of Fate! ^_^

Both **Danganronpa: Trigger Happy Havoc** and **Danganronpa 2: Goodbye Despair** are extremely captivating, so I've taken great pains to capture the overall flow of the game with this manga adaption. Nevertheless, I believe the manga and video game are each fun and unique in their own right. I'm sure you'll be able to enjoy this adaption whether you're familiar with the game or new to the series. That having been said, I hope you continue to support the manga!

Kuroki Q

President and Publisher // **Mike Richardson**

Designer // **Skyler Weissenfluh**

Ultimate Digital Art Technician // **Samantha Hummer**

English-language version produced by Dark Horse Comics

DANGANRONPA 2: GOODBYE DESPAIR VOLUME 1

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Despair Mail

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Welcome to Dark Horse's next Danganronpa *series,* Danganronpa 2: Goodbye Despair*! Well…we say "next," but events may seem eerily reminiscent of, well,* Danganronpa 2: Ultimate Luck and Hope and Despair ^_^ *It might seem a little strange at first two publish two different manga series based on the same game in the series, but apparently they didn't think it was that strange in Japan :) so a weeb like myself must follow their lead.*

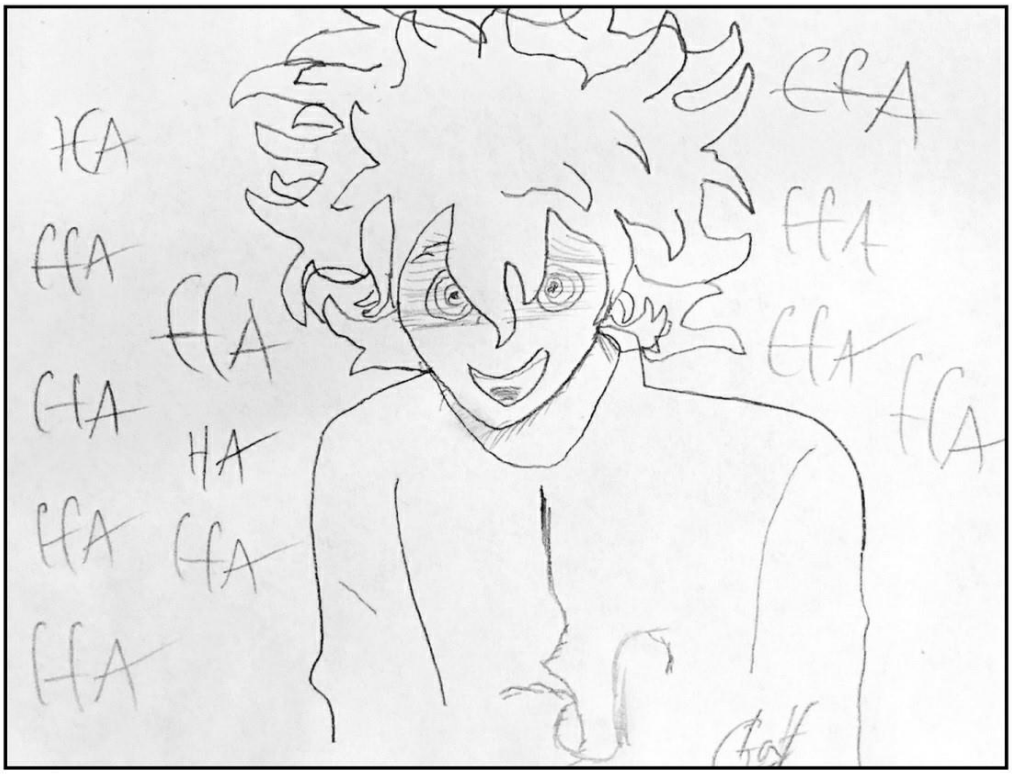
Of course, Danganronpa 2 *is many people's favorite game in the series, so it's not entirely surprising that there's more than one manga based on it. And not only is* Danganronpa 2: Goodbye Despair *framed quite differently from* Ultimate Luck and Hope and Despair *(which is really Nagito's point of view), but the art style is quite different, as is the staging of the scenes. The large cast and the varying decision paths of the* Danganronpa *games gives many different possibilities for how to tell the story, so we hope you will like this one. By the way, we are looking into doing manga from the other* Danganronpa *games/stories as well!*

By the way, thanks to all the Danganronpa *cosplayers I ran into at MomoCon in Atlanta last May. I was doing a Dark Horse manga panel and was asked to take some cosplay pictures for our Instagram, but I feel I was being kind of lazy about it, because while I did take half a dozen pics, there were easily three times as many people there cosplaying* Danganronpa *(and maybe I'm still underestimating—I didn't even think to see if there was a photo meet-up during the con, and there probably was ^_^)*

Anyway! Fortunately, YOU send in your photos and drawings, and we'd always like to see more! Remember to use high resolution if possible (300 dpi or better) for your photos or images, so it'll look its best in print. Also remember that even if you don't draw or cosplay, and just want to express your thoughts as a Danganronpa *fan, it's OK to send those in too—you don't need a visual :-) As Remy Shimada once said in an entirely different series, see you again!*

Kiga, a.k.a. ArtHungryDemon, writes in to say "Hiya! I was really happy when I read volumes 1 & 2 of the Danganronpa 2: Ultimate Luck and Hope and Despair *manga, as I've been wishing to have it in my hands ever since I knew about it! Thank you so much for taking the time to translate and publish this manga and hopefully this fanart evokes both despair and happiness :>"*

Nagito is always willing to lend a hand to support the cause of hope for his fellow students. Are those lilies? As Steven Rainey reported for TheThinAir.net, when Kurt Cobain gave instructions on how to decorate the stage for Nirvana's MTV Unplugged *performance, he specified stargazer lilies: "'You mean like a funeral?' asked the producer. To which Cobain replied, 'Exactly. Like a funeral.'" Serve the servant(s).*



And he continues to spread joy, mirth, and of course, insane laughter (is that a straitjacket?) for us through this illustration by Corinth from Texas, who says, "I'm absolutely in love with the Ultimate Luck and Hope and Despair *manga! After finishing Vol. 2, I decided it was only right that I draw our boy Nagito!"*

Dankcidueye returns with a cosplay, saying, "I offer you a dabbing Monokuma." Uh-huh, yeah, I can see that, but what I want to know is…are his eyebrows on fleek? The answer is probably no, as Monokuma doesn't have any.

Matthew, a.k.a. sslugmoth, writes: "I love Danganronpa 2*, it's my favorite game in the series. It was hard to choose who to draw, but I had to go with Fuyuhiko." For some reason his style here reminds me a little of the gangsters in* Boardwalk Empire*. Hmm, imagine a version of* Danganronpa *set in the 1920s, with an Ultimate Flapper and Ultimate Bootlegger . . .* ^_^

Hailey writes in to say, "Here is a drawing of Monaca Towa! She is my favorite character in the Warriors of Hope. I just wanted to say thank you for making the manga for Danganronpa V2*!" Monaca, naturally (we already said her last name was Towa in a previous volume, which someone pointed out is a spoiler, but what the heck) is in the other* Danganronpa *series Dark Horse is currently running,* Danganronpa Another Episode: Ultra Despair Girls*.*

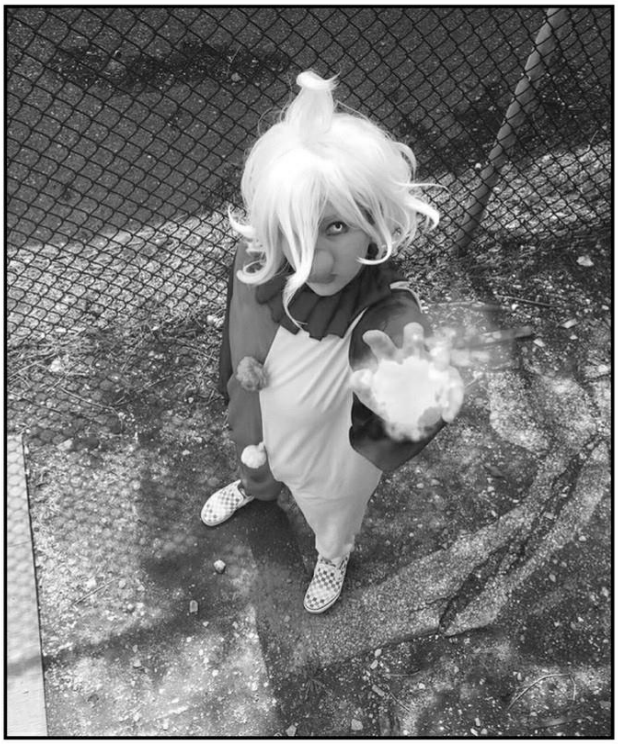
Gillian (@gillybellycosplays on Instagram) sends in this and the next three images, taken at Animaritime in Fredericton, New Brunswick. Canada has a strong tradition when it comes to anime and manga fans, but Animaritime, as its name might suggest, is said to be the first Japanese fan con to be established in the Canadian Maritime provinces. Gillian says, "Hello! Danganronpa *is the first series to bring me together with a whole ton of other amazing cosplayers who love the games and anime just as much as I do!"*

"Not only was I invited to participate in my first ever photoshoot (which you can see the results of above), I also got the chance to meet Brian Beacock, the voice of Monokuma in the video games! I absolutely adore cosplaying best girl Aoi Asahina and I had a blast giving out donuts to other attendees at the convention! My fellow cosplayers pictured made that convention the best one I ever attended, and I have Danganronpa *to thank for the memories!"*

This group shot was taken on the steps of the Legislative Building in Fredericton, which was constructed in 1882 in the so-called Second Empire style that arose in France and was associated with the reign of Napoleon III (he was the nephew of the original Napoleon, whose son, Napoleon II, never actually got to rule—that's why III's reign is called the Second Empire, and not the third as would seem more logical).

I think it's cool when people use an unexpected location as a cosplay backdrop, such as an historic building. Some anime cons in Europe are even held in historic buildings, including Connichi in Germany, which takes place in the elegant Kongress Palais Kassel.

Well, I didn't hear anything in the news about a tragedy at an anime con in New Brunswick, so I'm just going to assume that everyone was all right.

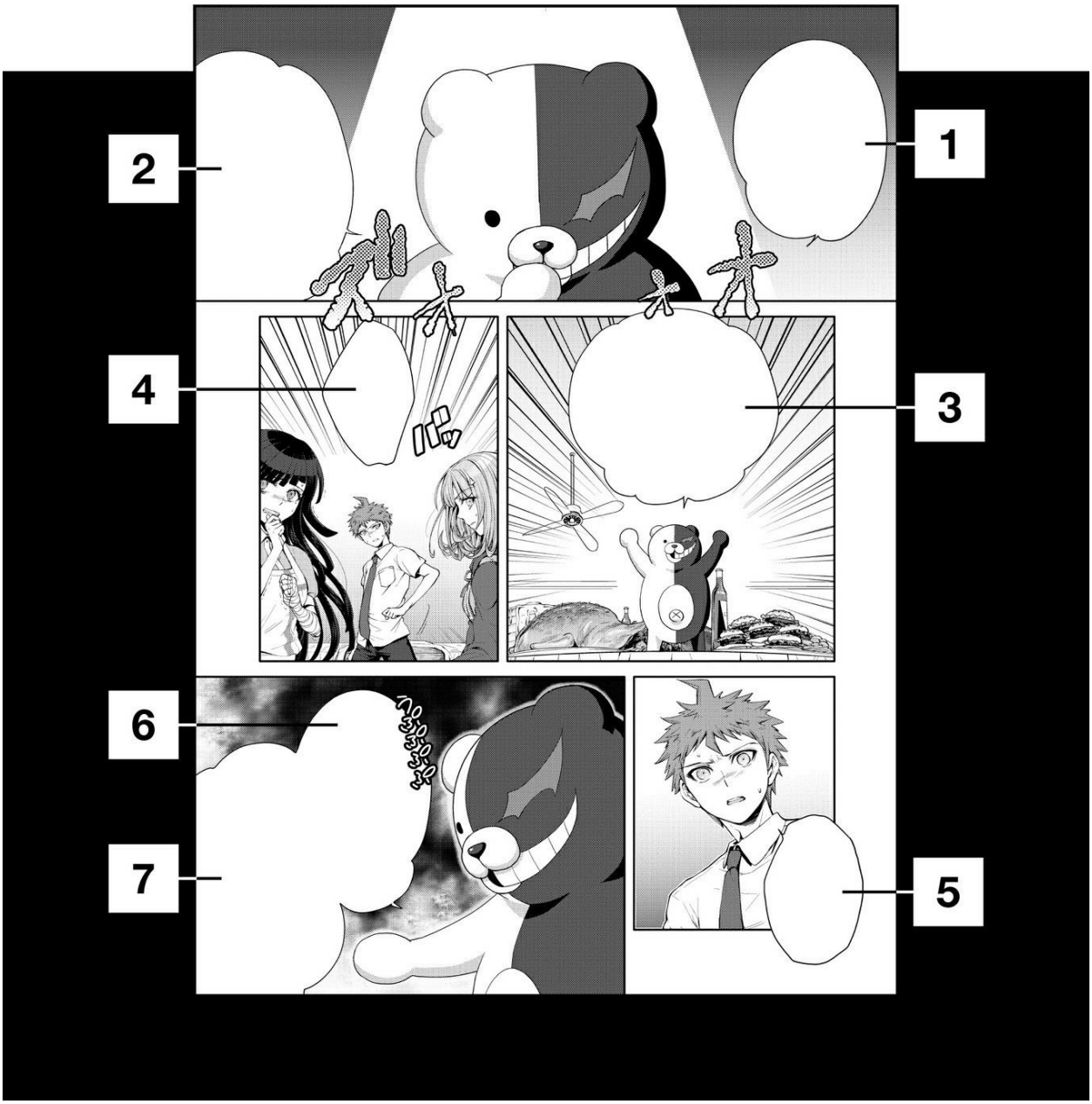


We'll say goodbye for now with this picture from Isa uwu, who says, "*Clown Nagito is kind of a huge joke in the American side of the fanbase, so I decided to cosplay it :> (My Instagram is @ grapekinnie).*" I'm suddenly having a vision of not only Nagito, but the entire *Danganronpa 2* cast as clowns, having a big rumble in the manner of Arctic Monkeys' "Fluorescent Adolescent."

But *Goodbye Despair* Vol. 2 is on the way (and we've also got our other current *Danganronpa* manga, *Danganronpa Another Episode: Ultra Despair Girls*), so we'd love to receive more of your thoughts, fan art, cosplay, etc., on all things *Danganronpa*!

MAY I HAVE YOUR, ATTENTION, PLEASE?

Your powers of observation will be vital if you want to survive the courtroom drama (or never mind courtroom—the just plain drama) of *Danganronpa*. So remember that this book reads right-to-left, because that's just the kind of detail that might REFUTE! someone's trial testimony. Also, remember that this book reads right-to-left, because if you read it left-to-right, the murder victims will seem to rise up off the floor and come back to life, which may be a little disconcerting.



EVERYBODY KNOWS WHO THEY ARE . . . EXCEPT THE HERO!

Danganronpa 2: Goodbye Despair is an alternate version of the events told in the manga *Danganronpa 2: Ultimate Luck and Hope and Despair*. That series told the story through the eyes of "Ultimate Lucky Student" Nagito Komaeda; now *Goodbye Despair* gives you the perspective of his arch-rival in the desperate classroom murder game, Hajime Hinata!

High school student Hajime Hinata must be the "Ultimate" at something—after all, he got accepted to Hope's Peak Academy, which takes only the nation's elite teens, whether they're elite at being gangsters, gymnasts, or gerbil breeders (hamster, actually). But he doesn't *know* what his special talent is . . . only that he and his classmates have been given a surprise summer vacation on Jabberwock Island. It may be a tropical paradise, but their sinister teddy bear headmaster Monokuma still expects them all to complete their assignments if they ever want to go home—namely, murder a fellow student *and get away with it*, as the survivors cross-examine each other at a classroom trial!